SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

1

2

HIKARU NAKAMURA

NATURALLY, HIS MANY APPEARANCES SHOW...

...IS THE DISCIPLE WHO APPEARS MOST IN THE BIBLE.

SIMON PETER, THE FIRST LEADER OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH...

DON'T WORRY, THAT'S WHAT INSTALLMENTS ARE FOR.

...IT COSTS, LIKE, 100,000 YEN, RIGHT?

IT'S A COOL BIKE, BUT...

...THE DEPTHS OF HIS FAITH...

PETER-SAN...

BUT MOST OF ALL...

YES? WHAT IS IT?!

Wow, really ?!

We can form Team Jesus!

...AND JESUS'S TRUST IN HIM.

THAT DINKY BASKET BIKE IS NOT THE SAME AS THIS SOUPED-UP ROAD MACHINE!

Y-YES, I KNOW, BUT I ALREADY HAVE ONE...

AND HAVING A BIKE MEANS YOU SAVE ON PUBLIC TRANSIT COSTS.

Y-YOU THINK SO...?

YES! I KNOW SO!!

カチッ

BUT WE DON'T HAVE A PLACE TO PUT IT...

YOU CAN WORRY ABOUT THAT AFTER YOU BUY IT!

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: BUDDHA POWER

TOUR DE HEA
TENBU
TENBU
TENBU
TENBU
Heaven's GATE
Heaven's GATE
Yes
Yes
Yes...
Sujata Sujata
SAINT YOUNG MEN
Chapter 81
I Want To Ride My Bicycle

PETER-SAN, WOULD YOU PLEASE NOT DRAG JESUS INTO EVERY LITTLE HOBBY YOU DEVELOP?
YES, SIR...
...THEY SHOW HIS FAMILIARITY WITH THE ART OF BEING SCOLDED.
釈迦力
YOU UNDERSTAND THAT A HUGE PURCHASE LIKE THIS IS NOT JUST HIS PROBLEM, RIGHT?
YES, SIR...
MY BAD.
I MEAN, I APOLOGIZE, SIR...
NOW HE'S BEING SCOLDED BY BUDDHA, TOO!!

Not him again...

...BUDDHA-SAMA'S BEEN VIEWING ME LIKE "THAT ONE BAD INFLUENCE ON MY SON," IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN...

I'M SORRY. I CAN'T DENY IT.

A-ARE YOU DOING ALL RIGHT, PETER?

Y-YEAH, YEAH... I'M FINE...

IT JUST SEEMS LIKE LATELY...

NO, IT CAN STAY OUTSIDE! RIGHT NEXT TO YOUR BICYCLE, IN FACT.

HUH?

COME BRING THE BIKE UP!

PETER-SAN, I'VE CLEARED SOME SPACE IN THE ENTRYWAY.

L... Like this?

WURP...

くるん...

IT'S STARTED CURVING ITS HANDLES INWARD WITH ANXIETY, BECAUSE IT THINKS IT'S BEING THROWN AWAY!

AAAH! WE'RE SORRY! WE'RE NOT THROWING YOU AWAY!

N-NO, IT'S FINE OUTSIDE, EVEN IN THE RAIN...

PLEASE, I INSIST. IT'S FOR THE GOOD OF THE BIKE.

I'M TALKING ABOUT THE GOOD OF MY KANTHAKA NEXT TO YOU...

IT REALLY DOES, UH... TAKE UP SPACE...

ズーン GLOOOM

HMMMM...

WELL, BUDDHA-SAMA SEEMS FIRMLY AGAINST IT NOW...

Ha ha... true.

YOU HAVE TO CRAB-WALK JUST TO GET INSIDE!

THAT'S PUTTING IT MILDLY.

EXACTLY, BROTHER. IMAGINE US...

BOTH OF US RIDING SIDE BY SIDE, THE WIND IN OUR FACES...

JUST IMAGINE ...

...RIDING SIDE BY SIDE, THE WIND IN OUR FACES...

...BUT THIS ONE TIME, I CAN'T COUNT ON HIS HELP!

MY BROTHER'S USUALLY GUNG-HO ABOUT MY IDEAS...

It makes me look cool!

SORRY, BROTHER. I BOUGHT A CAR...

What's with the skin tight suit?

THIS IS DIFFERENT! TRUST ME, IT'S FUN!

You didn't buy this just to play Ingress, did you...?

I'VE GOT TO TRUST IN MY ABILITY TO WIN THEM OVER AND GET THEM TO JOIN OUR RACING TEAM!

BUT I'M A PRO EVANGEL-IST.

...SO THAT EVERYONE CAN SEE WE HAVE IDENTICAL FACES...

WHIZZZ

BLOWING MY BANGS OUT OF THE WAY...

W-WHY ARE YOU SO AGAINST THAT?!

WH... WHAT...?

IF YOU INSIST THAT I HAVE TO DO IT, THEN YOU SHAVE YOUR GOATEE!

I CAN'T STAND THAT IDEA...

HIS BROTHER'S ADOLESCENCE WAS STILL GOING STRONG, APPARENTLY.

Maybe that was a bit too much...

I JUST DON'T GET IT...

THAT'S RUDE TO JAMES THE GREAT AND JAMES THE LESS!!

WHAT IF THEY START CALLING US "SIMON THE GREAT" AND "SIMON THE LESS"?!

DID YOU BRING WHAT I ASKED YOU ABOUT?!

Oh, hey!

ER, COME INSIDE...

PETER-SAN LOOKED REALLY DOWNCAST JUST NOW ...

THAT'S RIGHT! THIS IS HOW I'LL CONVINCE THEM!!

LET'S WATCH IT TOGETHER!

THE TOUR DE FRANCE DVD, YOU MEAN?!

OF COURSE I BROUGHT IT!

AND BICYCLE RACES ARE NO DIFFERENT !!

A GOOD, DRAMATIC RACE IS SURE TO CAPTURE THEIR INTEREST!!

WHEN SPREADING JESUS-SAMA'S TEACHINGS TO THE WORLD...

IT'S LIKE THE WORLD TOURNAMENT OF BIKE RACING!

WHAT'S THAT? A BICYCLING DVD?

IT'S GOT ALL THE HUMAN DRAMA THAT'S KEY TO CAPTURING THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF ITS READERS...

...YOU FIRST NEED TO POINT OUT THE ENTER-TAINMENT VALUE OF THE BIBLE.

HE'S WON THE FIRST STAGE ...

...AND SO HE GETS TO WEAR THE YELLOW JERSEY!

OH...

AND NOW THE RIDER PULLING THE TEAM'S ACE ALONG HAS FINISHED HIS JOB!

THE ACE IS ON THE ATTACK !!

THEY... THEY DON'T NEED TO PUT THAT ON HIM...

WHEN YOU SEE THEIR FACE WHEN THEY WEAR THAT YELLOW JERSEY...

Yeah!

THERE! HOOKED HIM!

IT'S COOL, HUH...? WHAT A THRILLING MOMENT!

OH... OHHH...

JESUS
I LIKE THAT BUYING THE BICYCLE ISN'T THE END OF THE FUN. YOU GET TO PICK OUT COLORFUL RIDING WEAR AND PARTS. THERE ARE MANY OPTIONS THAT AREN'T TOO HIGH OR LOW IN PRICE.

UH, NO, THE YELLOW ISN'T BASED ON JUDAS THIS TIME...

TRAITOR

It's just not fair !!

...DOESN'T MEAN THEY SHOULD BRAND HIM WITH THE YELLOW OF A TRAITOR IN THE NEXT RACE!!

JUST BECAUSE HE ABANDONDED HIS TEAMMATES ...

...ARE THEY ALL IN HALF-SLEEVES...?

SO WHY...

It's not bad ...

It's a **good** thing. »

SOB SOB

IT'S JUST MEANT SO YOU CAN SEE WHO'S IN FIRST PLACE...

...SO FALLING OFF COULD LEAD TO MAJOR INJURIES.

THOSE BIKES ARE GOING 60 KILOMETERS AN HOUR...

Downhill, they get up to 100 km/h...

SPONSORS

THOSE CLOTHES PACKED WITH WRITING ...

THEY NEED FULL SLEEVES! IT'S DANGEROUS THIS WAY!

Y-YEAH, YOU'VE GOT A POINT...

And there's a Fall!

RAHH RAHH

WHY DON'T YOU COVER YOUR ENTIRE BODY?!

釈迦力

TH-THAT ALONE ISN'T ENOUGH!

AND THAT'S WHY I ALWAYS WEAR A HELMET...

UH... WRITING...?

ガタッ

HERE, I'LL ADD MORE FOR YOU, PETER-SAN!

THEY NEED MORE WRITING ...

LOOK AT THEM! THEY'RE PRACTICALLY TOUCHING THE CROWD!

SWISH

...SO I DON'T REALLY NEED SPONSORS ...

N-NO, IT'S FINE! I'M NOT A PRO RIDER ...

Y-YEAH, THERE'S A POTENTIAL FOR DANGER...

yes
yes

BUDDHA-SAMA...?

IT WOULD BE A DISASTER IF THEY FORGOT THE SUTRAS!

UH... WHAT COMPANY NAMES ARE THESE...?

DON'T MOVE...

WHEN TRAVELING DOWN A PATH WITH SO MANY GHOSTS, YOU MUST BE PREPARED ...

BUDDHA JOINED HIS LIST OF SPONSORS.

NO!! WHAT COMPANY IS THAT?!

HAVE YOU NEVER HEARD OF HOICHI THE EARLESS?!

sky
sky
sky
sky
sky
sky
Vitt
OH...
OHH...!
HMM.
STILL...
WELL, AT LEAST HE SEEMS TO UNDERSTAND THE RULES NOW...
BLESSINGS BE UPON THEM!!
THEY'RE SO COOL. WHAT A TEAM ...
YOU SHOULD TAKE A RIDE AND FIND OUT FOR YOURSELF IF THAT'S REALLY TRUE!
ACTUALLY, AS LONG AS YOU FOLLOW THE RULES OF THE ROAD...
...IT SEEMS DANGEROUS TO RIDE AROUND ON BIKES AT THIS SPEED.
WITH ALL THE CARS IN THE CITY ...
BUDDHA...
THE DRIVERS AND I WOULD APPRECIATE A LITTLE FAITH!

Y-YIKES. IS IT SUPPOSED TO FEEL SO HIGH...?

THE SHAPE OF HIS HELMET ...

...SUGGESTS A MIRACLE MAY HAVE OCCURRED HERE.

Will it fit my head again?

YES, YOU LOOK PERFECT. LET'S GIVE IT A RIDE!

BAM

wobble

S-SO I'M SUPPOSED TO BE RIDING ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE STREET, RIGHT?!

FSSSSH

I'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU ON THE KANTHAKA!

LOOK, THERE'S ONE NOW!

NOT A SINGLE ONE? THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT...

TACHIKAWA IS A GREAT PLACE TO BE A CYCLIST, IT TURNS OUT!

THAT'S RIGHT. JUST BE WARY OF PARKED CARS!

ALTHOUGH, WHEN I WAS RIDING ON MY OWN, I DIDN'T SEE ANY PARKED ON THE CURB...

FWA

APAAP

BUT HOW SHOULD I AVOID...

yes

capostle @peter

IN FACT, THE LAST TIME I WAS OUT RIDING...

yes

DID IT ALREADY GET TOWED?!

I was only gone five minutes!

HEY, WHERE'S MY CAR ?!

IT MADE ME WONDER IF I'VE ACTUALLY GOT SOME KIND OF SECRET TALENT FOR BICYCLING... YOU KNOW?

...I DIDN'T CATCH A SINGLE RED LIGHT.

W- WHERE SHOULD I STOP...?

BUT LOOK, THERE'S ONE!

WELL, THAT'S QUITE A FEAT...

NOT MEANT FOR THE LIKES OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS!!

FIG

SWISH

SWISH

RED REPRESENTS THE BLOOD THAT JESUS-SAMA SHED FOR MANKIND.

IT IS A NOBLE COLOR ...

...I ALSO THINK I'VE GOT SOME TALENT FOR HILL-CLIMBING...

SWISH

PLUS...

パラパラ PATTER

パラパラ PATTER

IT'S LIKE I'M RIDING ON AN ELECTRIC BICYCLE THAT'S DOING ALL THE WORK!

I'VE NEVER GOTTEN FATIGUED FROM ANY INCLINE.

SWISH

ハァ ハァ ハァ ハァ

...AND SIMON OF CYRENE CAME ALONG TO HELP ME OUT...

HYAH!

YAH!!

IT FELT LIKE WHEN I WAS CARRYING THE CROSS AT VIA DOLOROSA...

Who's there?

HUH?

HUH?!

PUSH

PUSH

WHAT DO YOU THINK, BUDDHA? THE ROAD BIKE'S PRETTY LIGHT AND FAST, HUH?

WHEW! THIS CLASSIC BASKET BIKE SURE IS TIRING...

OH!

THE GREATEST BICYCLE, TO ME, IS THE BASKET BIKE...

HOW COULD I BE SO FOOLISH?

UH, WHY ARE YOU SO EXHAUSTED ...?

BUDDHA ...?

Yes

Yes

AND NOT JUST ANY OLD CARGO BIKE...

I TALKED ALL THAT SMACK RIGHT IN FRONT OF KANTHAKA...

THE GREATEST BICYCLE, TO ME, DOES NOT MEAN I WILL NOT GROW TIRED RIDING IT.

...WITH A DEAD BATTERY AS EXTRA WEIGHT!! THAT IS PERFECTION!!

Thank you so much for running the errand for me, Sei-san.

Ellwair

I WANT TO RIDE WITH GROCERIES, WITH A BABY ON THE BACK OF AN ELECTRIC BICYCLE ...

Buddha's strong!

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: SIDDHARTHA

TO ME, THIS ROAD BIKE AND THE *KANTHAKA* ARE NO DIFFERENT...

THE HEAVIER IT IS, THE GREATER THE ASSISTANCE TOWARD ENLIGHTENMENT.

AND THEN ...

THE MAINTENANCE MIGHT BE THE HARDEST PART OF OWNING A BIKE.

SO IS MINE...

EVER SINCE THEN, IT'S BEEN PERMANENTLY STUCK ON THE HIGHEST GEAR...

HOW'S IT GOING, PETER? ENJOYING THE CYCLING LIFE?

NO...

I'M DONE HERE!

Casually increasing the number of biking materials in his brother's room.

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

CHAPTER 81 TRANSLATION NOTES

James the Great,
St. James the Great and James the Less are two of the Twelve Apostles, given their epithets to distinguish them from each other. The "greater" and "lesser" adjectives were only meant in terms of height or age, and not commentary on their personalities.

Yes,
The name of the riding team ("Yes") is a play on the Japanese pronunciation of the name Jesus, which is *iesu*, a homonym of the English word "yes."

Hoichi the Earless,
A folklore tale about a blind performer named Hoichi. When he is approached by the ghost of a samurai who asks him to play his *biwa* lute in a cemetery, he agrees. The priest of the temple decides to protect Hoichi from the ghost by painting his body with the the Heart Sutra, and instructs him to ignore the ghost's call. When the ghost returns, Hoichi survives the ordeal, but loses his ears to the ghost, because they were the one part of his body not covered by the sutra.

Via Dolorosa,
The name of the route in Jerusalem that Jesus is said to have walked through on the way to his crucifixion. The name Via Dolorosa is Latin for "Sorrowful Way," or "Way of Suffering." Simon of Cyrene was a man in the crowd whom the Roman soldiers compelled to help Jesus carry the cross for a time along the route.

...BUT WHEN TOO MANY OF THESE PEOPLE ARE GATHERED AT ONCE...

TALENTED AND UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS SHOULD BE A WELCOME ADDITION TO ANY ORGANIZATION ...

...IT CAN LEAD TO INEFFICIENCY FOR THE GROUP...

DEVA BRAHMA

I'M SAYING THAT THERE ARE TOO MANY DIFFERENT NAMES!

WE SHOULD JUST CALL IT HANAMATSURI--THE "FLOWER FESTIVAL"!

JUST CHECK OUT MY LIST OF CANDIDATES!

WAIT, WAIT, WAIT! THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO TRY OUT A NEW LOOK!

DEVA TAISHAKUTEN

THAT'S STUPID. HOW IS ANYONE GOING TO KNOW THAT'S SIDDHARTHA'S BIRTHDAY?

CALL IT BUSSHÔ-E! "THE BIRTH OF THE BUDDHA"!

DEVA BENZAITEN

YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS...

I'll Be I'm

Buddha Festival 2015
Armpit Fest
Buddha's Birth Bash Blast
Story of the White Elephant
Buddha's Gone and Been Born
Amacha Pouring Festival
Christmas (Feat. Buddha)

I'M GLAD YOU AGREE! ARMPIT FEST WAS MY FAVORITE, TOO!

RIGHT! BECAUSE IT MAKES VERY CLEAR THAT IT'S ABOUT HOW BUDDHA-SAMA WAS BORN FROM HIS MOTHER'S ARMPIT!!

THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT! "ARMPIT FEST" IS THE BEST OPTION BY FAR!

...BECAUSE SOMEHOW THEY ALL SHARE THE SAME HORRIBLE TASTES!

THINGS ALWAYS GO BAD WHEN THEY GET TOGETHER TO COME UP WITH IDEAS...

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 82

WDT (What Day is Today) 48

BUDDHA
EVERYBODY SAYS, "DIDN'T I JUST SEE YOU ON TV?" BUT I MUST BE CLEAR: THAT WAS NOT ME AT THE END OF THE TALE OF THE PRINCESS KAGUYA. WHEN WILL THEY FINISH THE STAGE PLAY OF TEZUKA'S *BUDDHA*, BY THE WAY?

UH-OH, IT'S ABOUT TIME TO GO...

Yeah, it's not bad.

I'm rather fond of "Buddha's Gone and Been Born", too, but...

...AND WOUND UP WITNESSING THIS MEETING OF THE DEVAS...

I ONLY CAME INTO THIS CAFÉ TO WORK ON MY IDEAS FOR *ENLIGHTEN YOURSELF, ANANDA!* ...

S-SORRY FOR BEING SO LATE!

ピロリロリン ピロリロリン

Better put on my beanie, just in case.

...THEY COULD DO IT AT THEIR OFFICE UP IN THE HEAVENS...

IF THEY WANT TO RENAME HANA-MATSURI ...

OH, PLEASE! ANYTHING FOR BUDDHA!

WE VERY MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR HELP TODAY...

THE DEVAS AND JESUS TOGETHER WITHOUT ME?!

WHAT'S GOING ON?!

OH, THAT SOUNDS REALLY AWKWARD.

...AND THEN IT TURNED OUT SHE WAS CHRISTIAN AND RECOGNIZED ME, SO SHE STARTED ASKING ME TO TAKE HER TO HEAVEN...

AN OLD WOMAN ASKED ME FOR DIREC-TIONS ...

I'VE ALWAYS WORRIED ABOUT HIM.

YOU KNOW ...

FOR ME...?!

J... JESUS?!

...IS WAY TOO UNDER-APPRECIATED IN JAPAN...

SINCE BUDDHA'S BIRTHDAY ...

I'M ASHAMED TO ADMIT IT, BUT AS HIS PRODUCERS, THIS FAILURE RESTS ON OUR SHOULDERS!

...AND YET THERE'S SO LITTLE KNOWLEDGE OF THIS DAY...

BUDDHISM IS THE SECOND-MOST OBSERVED RELIGION IN JAPAN...

SO WE THOUGHT ...

AND DON'T DRAG JESUS INTO THIS!

IT'S FINE! I DON'T NEED MY BIRTHDAY TO BE A BIG DEAL!!

FIDGET FIDGET

...WE SHOULD BRING HIM ON AS A SPECIAL ADVISOR.

OH, GOSH...

...COULD GET JESUS-SAMA'S BIRTHDAY RECOGNIZED AS A MAJOR ANNUAL HOLIDAY EVENT...

...IF THE THIRD-PLACE RELIGION IN THE COUNTRY ...

WHAT?! WHAT ARE YOU PEOPLE THINKING ?!!

...WE RELEASED A LIMITED EDITION "PEPZI ZERO SUGAR" AMACHA FLAVOR, AND IT DIDN'T CATCH ON...

LAST YEAR, IN AN ILL-FATED ATTEMPT TO BRING RECOGNITION OF AMACHA TO THE PEOPLE...

PEPZI

AMACHA 甘茶

Why would you start there?!

SHH!

BUT SANTA-SAN ALREADY DECLINED OUR-

WHOMP

I MEAN, EVEN AT CHRISTMAS, PEOPLE DON'T THINK ABOUT ME...

...AS MUCH AS THEY DO SANTA CLAUS-KUN.

Santa Claus

SO I DON'T KNOW IF I'LL BE ANY HELP AS AN ADVISOR ...

YES! THAT'S IT!

WELL, I GUESS YOU'D WANT A MEMORABLE MASCOT CHARACTER TO ASSOCIATE WITH THE HOLIDAY...

ESQUIRE

OH... I WAS THEIR BACKUP PLAN...

SO OUR IDEA WAS...

AND THE CONSENSUS WAS ASURA-KUN.

WE THOUGHT, WHO DO WE HAVE WITH STAR POTEN-TIAL?

IT'S JUST A JUMPING-OFF POINT, OF COURSE...

IN FACT, WE CAME UP WITH SOME IDEAS FOR A CHARACTER OURSELVES.

TAP TAP

...SPLASHING AMACHA DOWN THE CHIMNEYS OF ALL THE HOUSES...

HE WEARS A RED STOLE...

...AND FLIES AROUND AT NIGHT ON A WHITE ELEPHANT WITH A RED TRUNK...

IF THAT'S YOUR JUMPING OFF POINT...

BUT WE COULD GO FROM THERE...

IT'S JUST A JUMPING-OFF POINT, OF COURSE!

Here's a mock-up photo!

WE COULD GO WITH THAT THIS YEAR ...

WE FIGURED A LEGEND LIKE THAT WOULD REALLY CATCH ON. WHAT DO YOU THINK?

JESUS FELT THAT IF THERE WERE ANY TIME TO MAKE A STAND AND START SWINGING ON HIS FRIEND'S BEHALF, IT WAS NOW.

WOW. IS IT THAT BAD?

CLENCH...

...YOU MIGHT AS WELL JUMP INTO THE OCEAN...

JESUS I WAS PHOTO-GRAPHED INSIDE THE NORTHERN LIGHTS? UM...THAT'S MORE OF AN AGENCY MATTER. YOU'D WANT TO CONTACT THE HEAVENLY PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT. THERE'S A LUPIN EPISODE ABOUT STEALING THE CHRIST THE REDEEMER STATUE IN RIO THAT I LOVE FOR ITS SHEER GALL.

SO I GUESS THAT'S A "NO," THEN...

AND WHY ARE YOU SO FIXATED ON THE AMACHA?!

AND WHY WOULD ASURA-KUN BE WEARING RED? IT MAKES NO SENSE!!

FOR ONE THING, IT'S JUST A TOTAL RIP-OFF OF THE SANTA CLAUS STORY...

LOVE

EVERYONE GETS EXCITED TO EAT THE FOOD ASSOCIATED WITH THAT DAY!

CAKES, CHOCOLATES, RICE CRACKERS, MOCHI...

WHAT DO CHRISTMAS, VALENTINE'S DAY, HINAMATSURI, AND CHILDREN'S DAY HAVE IN COMMON?

...WE SHOULD BE PELTING HIM WITH BUCHE DE NOEL!!

YES! IT'S CATCHY!!

WHY DO YOU KEEP TRYING TO RIP OFF CHRISTMAS?!

I SEE... YOU HAVE A POINT!

AND I'M SORRY TO SAY IT, BUT AMACHA JUST DOESN'T CUT IT AS A TREAT...

THEN YOU'RE SAYING THAT RATHER THAN POURING AMACHA TEA ON SIDDHARTHA...

Though I do like it...

I'VE HEARD ENOUGH ...

I'M SURE JESUS KEPT THIS MEETING SECRET FOR MY SAKE, BUT...

ARE YOU *TRYING* TO HURT HIM?!

F-FINE, WE'LL USE HOT COCOA INSTEAD...

IT JUST MAKES IT SEEM LIKE YOU'RE PUNISHING HIM FOR FUN!!

...I'M SURE IT'S AN IMPORTANT HOLIDAY IN A RELIGIOUS SENSE...

THE THING ABOUT HANA-MATSURI IS...

I NEED TO STOP THEM...

...THIS IS GOING TO HAVE A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON MY LIFE IN JAPAN.

JESUS-SAMA...

AAAH

...BY MAKING UP THINGS THAT NEVER HAPPENED, JUST TO GET ATTENTION!

YOU CAN'T GET THAT ALL TWISTED ...

...BUT EVEN MORE THAN THAT, IT'S A DAY FULL OF PRECIOUS MEMORIES FOR BUDDHA HIMSELF!

I'M GLAD THAT WE ASKED YOU TO COME HERE AND GIVE US ADVICE.

YOU'RE RIGHT, OF COURSE.

JESUS... GUYS...

カン

THANK YOU, EVERYONE!

LET'S ALL COME UP WITH BETTER IDEAS ...

...FOR HOW TO MAKE AN EVENT THAT TRULY VALUES SIDDHARTHA'S BIRTHDAY!

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: AMRITA

...NO MATTER WHAT FESTIVITIES SHOULD RESULT...

I SHALL ACCEPT YOUR GOOD-WILL...

APRIL 8: THE DAY OF HANAMATSURI...

OH! SAY, JESUS...

...BUT I DOUBT IT'S GOING TO BE SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT...

FESTIVAL

...ISN'T THIS THE CONVENIENCE STORE THAT GOT TURNED INTO AN *INGRESS* PORTAL...?

WER-EPLASH

...WITH BRAHMA-SAN DOUSING ME WITH AMACHA FIRST THING IN THE MORNING. THAT DIDN'T HAPPEN THIS YEAR...

IN FACT, EVERY OTHER YEAR WOULD START ...

I KNOW THEY SAID IT WOULD BE A NEW EVENT...

キョロ SWISH

カノロ

NOTHING STRANGE SO FAR...

armpit festival
SPRING PIT FESTIVAL
BUDDHA BUNS AVAILABLE NOW!
ING
SPRING
T
PIT
IVAL
FESTIVAL
THE LEGENDARY
PEPZI
AMACHA
甘茶
AMACHA pepzi IS BACK!
HOLY AM I ALONE THROUGH-OUT HEAVEN AND EARTH
HOLY AM I ALONE THROUGH-OUT HEAVEN AND EARTH
I GUESS I SHOULD POP IN AND HACK THE PORTAL REAL QUICK...
OH... UH... WELL...
Welcome!!
ピロリロ
PLING-A-LING
I'M SURE THEY DIDN'T PITCH SOME BIG NATIONAL-LEVEL THING...
N-NO, IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT...
OH... YOU MEAN THIS ARMPIT FESTIVAL?
IS SOME-THING WRONG?
JESUS TOOK PART IN THEIR MEETING TO TALK SENSE INTO THEM!
WAIT! THIS ISN'T A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN, IS IT?!
W-WHAT'S THE MATTER, BUDDHA?!

SPRING PIT FESTIVAL

A GIFT FOR THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE

BLISSFUL ARMPIT TUCKER PASTRIES ¥820

BLISSFUL ARMPIT TUCKER PASTR

HELLO KITTY ARMPIT TUCKERS

THESE ARE THOSE POPULAR NEW "ARMPIT TUCKER" PASTRIES...

AWK

もどろ

WARD

もどろ

OH... OH, WOWWW...

AH, I SEE... SO THIS IS THE ARMPIT FESTIVAL.

B-BMP

B-BMP

AND I SUPPOSE THESE PASTRIES...

It's also perfect for marriage proposals...

...AND IT WILL BLESS YOU WITH FERTILITY, ACCORDING TO LEGEND...

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO TUCK IT UNDER THE RIGHT ARMPIT OF YOUR LOVED ONE...

...MARKING THE END... OF THE ARMPIT FESTIVAL...

...AND SHOW UP WITH HALF-OFF STICKERS IN THE MISCELLANEOUS BIN NEXT TO THE REGISTER UNTIL THEY GET THROWN AWAY...

¥10

¥25

¥350

¥50

ALF-OFF SECTION

...ARE GOING TO GO UNSOLD IN HUGE NUMBERS...

I SHOULD HAVE STOPPED THIS BACK AT THAT CAFÉ.

IT'S ALL RIGHT, JESUS.

I'LL BE HONEST, I WAS PART OF THE PLANNING FOR THIS PROJECT!

I'M SO SORRY, BUDDHA!

...I...

MASCOT?

BECAUSE IT MEANS YOU ALREADY KNOW ABOUT THE MASCOT...

ACTUALLY... THAT'S KIND OF A RELIEF.

WHEW

WHAT?! YOU SAW THAT?!

THE DEVAS WERE NEVER GOING TO TAKE USEFUL ADVICE FROM AN OUTSIDER...

HELLO THERE!

TAP TAP TAP

NO, ACTUALLY. I LEFT THE PLACE WHILE YOU WERE STILL TALKING...

I'M A MAGICAL FAIRY WITH THIRTY-TWO PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS, JUST LIKE THE BUDDHA!

ARMPI

HI, I'M BUDDY THIRTY-TWO!

W-WHAT'S WRONG?! HE MATCHES WITH YOU, DOESN'T HE?!

AAAH!!

JESUS...

NO NEED TO BE SCARED--THIS IS ONE OF THE THIRTY-TWO CHARACTERISTICS, "FINELY WEBBED FINGERS AND TOES"!

WHAT'S WRONG, PAL?

STRETCH

AAAAAH!!

REALLY?! YOU THINK HE LOOKS LIKE AN ABOMINATION, TOO?!

...THEN PUT ME OUT OF MY MISERY, RIGHT NOW!!

IF I REALLY LOOK LIKE THIS...

WHAT'S GOING ON?!

NO! I'LL BE JUST FINE!!

BUT YOU'LL GET SCALD-ED!

LEAP

THIS IS A SCENE FROM HELL!!

DUMP IT ON ME!

SPLASH IT ALL OVER MY FACE!!

HERE YOU GO! SWEET AMACHA!

EEK!

WHY WOULD THE DEVAS BRING THIS ACCURSED IMAGE TO LIFE?!

NO!

AM I S-SUPPOSED TO DRINK THIS...?

O-OH... IT'S SO WARM...

IT'S HEADING FOR TACHIKAWA STATION!!

JESUS, WE NEED TO STOP THAT THING!

WHOOSH

...AND IT'S ALWAYS FULL OF PEOPLE--!

...WHERE THEY PUT UP THE CHRISTMAS TREE...

THERE'S A BIG OPEN SPACE THERE ...

HUH...?

OH, THANK GOOD-NESS!

I WAS REALLY HOPING THEY WOULD SET THIS UP!

OH, WOW... LOOK AT THAT ENORMOUS FLOWER ALTAR...

That's what it is, right?

THE FLOWER ALTARS THAT HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SET UP TO CELEBRATE HANAMATSURI ARE SO BEAUTIFUL...

...I WANTED PEOPLE TO SHOW THEM MORE APPRECIATION.

[1S0 1F]

You got carried away, Maudgalya-yana!

...BUT IF THE OCCASION OF YOUR BIRTHDAY...

...BRINGS JOY AND EXCITEMENT TO SOMEONE ELSE...

YOU MIGHT NOT WANT YOUR BIRTHDAY TO BECOME A MAJOR HOLIDAY...

WELL, THAT'S NOT SO BAD, IS IT?

HUH...?

YOU CAME HERE TO CELEBRATE HANAMATSURI, MATSUDA-SAN...?

SNIFF...

MATSUDA-SAN!

DID YOU COME TO SEE THIS, TOO?

OH! THERE YOU TWO ARE.

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

...?

MY GRANDKIDS GOT ME THIS. IT'S CALLED AN ARMPIT TUCKER, APPARENTLY.

SWISH

OH, THIS? THEY'RE POPULAR THESE DAYS, YOU KNOW?

UM... THAT...

カンロ

EVEN THE GODS CANNOT PREDICT THE NEXT BIG THING.

I'M SORRY, BUDDHA... I'M SO SORRY!!

THERE ARE NO PASTRIES IN THE HALF-OFF BIN! NONE AT ALL!!

カン

Oh, you're so lucky! I can feel the love from here!!

AND THEN ...

So my man gave me this ...

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, JESUS...?

SO I'M HAPPY TO GET SUCH A BIG ONE!

I DON'T KNOW THE STORY, BUT I DO LOVE THESE SWEET BEAN PASTRIES.

AH... I SEE...

The mascot was a huge hit in the Heavens.

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

CHAPTER 82 TRANSLATION NOTES

Amacha,

Amacha literally means "sweet tea," and is brewed from the naturally sweet fermented leaves of a species of hydrangea. On Buddha's Birthday (April 8), normally called Hanamatsuri or "Flower Festival" in Japan, amacha is ceremonially poured on small Buddha statues to mimic bathing a newborn. It is not related to the "sweet tea" popular in the American South.

WDT 48,

A parody of the template for the pop idol group AKB48, short for Akihabara 48, referring to the "home ground" of the group, and the number of members it contains. Many other affiliated groups under the same management were formed, following the same pattern of a three-letter anagram and the number 48.

The Tale of the Princess Kaguya,

A 2013 Ghibli animated film, directed by Isao Takahata (*Grave of the Fireflies, Pom Poko*). An adaptation of the famous story, The Tale of the Bamboo Cutter, it revolves around Princess Kaguya, a being that was found in a bamboo shoot, but was originally from the moon.. At the climax of the film, a procession of celestial beings comes down to take her away, led by a figure (the king of the moon) drawn to resemble the Buddha.

Children's Day,

A holiday observed on May 5, and previously known as "Boys' Day," as a counterpart to "Girls' Day" (*Hinamatsuri*). As a customary part of the holiday, rice cakes filled with *anko* (sweet bean paste) and wrapped in *kashiwa* (oak) leaves called *kashiwa mochi* are eaten. These can be seen in the upper left corner of the panel.

Buche de Noel,

A kind of Christmas cake made in France and other primarily French-speaking countries. It is a sponge cake that is rolled and decorated to look like a Yule log. It is also well known in Japan.

Amrita,

A Sanskrit word meaning "immortality" that refers to a kind of drink in Indian mythology that confers immortality upon whoever drinks it. In Japanese this is written kanro, meaning "sweet dew."

Thirty-Two,

A series of characteristics called "Signs of a Great Man" that were used as a description of the Buddha in early Buddhist art. These include features such as "finely webbed fingers and toes" and "a tongue long and broad."

Flower altar,

A special altar for displaying flowers on Hanamatsuri, the day of observing Buddha's birth. Usually they resemble miniature gazebo shrines about the size of a small table, with the flowers adorning the roof of the structure and a tiny Buddha statue below, upon which visitors pour the amacha.

BUT IT IS THIS VERY INEVITABILITY...

BUDDHA SAID THAT ALL VISUAL BEAUTY IS DESTINED TO FADE.

...AND I WAS WONDERING IF YOU'D LIKE TO BE A HAIRCUT MODEL FOR ME?!

PARDON ME! I'M A HAIR STYLIST...

...THAT CAUSES HUMANITY TO EVER SEEK OUT BEAUTY.

UM, JESUS. ..?

HE'S NOT TALKING ABOUT A RUNWAY MODEL, HE MEANS SOMEONE HE CAN PRACTICE A HAIRCUT ON.

He's a producer...

ME...? MODEL... IN PARIS?!

...BECAUSE YOU ONCE WALKED AROUND TOWN WITH LONG HAIR, TOO?!

WAIT, DID YOU KNOW THAT'S WHAT HE WAS DOING...

MY HAIR, HUH? WELL, I'VE CERTAINLY GOT PLENTY TO PRACTICE ON!!

WHO, ME? NO, IT'S NEVER HAPPENED TO ME!

I guess they single out people who have it grown out!

OH... OHHH! SILLY ME! WHAT WAS I THINKING? SHEESH!!

HE'S NOT A FASHION SCOUT...

HE'S STILL LEARNING, SO HE'S GIVING OUT FREE HAIRCUTS FOR MORE PRACTICE.

WHY?! HE DOESN'T HAVE A SINGLE HAIR ON TOP OF HIS HEAD!!

ANANDA WAS THE ONE ALWAYS SHOWING UP LATE BECAUSE PEOPLE WOULD BEG HIM TO BE THEIR HAIRCUT MODEL...

HOW-EVER TOO MUCH BEAUTY CAN LEAD PEOPLE ASTRAY.

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 83

A Hymn and a Trim

BUDDHA
I ALWAYS WONDERED WHY PEOPLE GET SO DRESSED UP IN THE SPRING.

TURNS OUT IT'S ALL THE NEW COMPANY HIRES AND COLLEGE STUDENTS. I'M SURE IT'S STRESSFUL MAKING IMPRESSIONS ON ALL THOSE NEW PEOPLE, BUT YOU'LL GET USED TO IT SOON!

I'M SORRY ABOUT HIM. THE LONG HAIR IS KIND OF HIS TRADEMARK, SO HE'S SENSITIVE ABOUT IT.

出家の主

HMM, I DON'T KNOW...

P-PLEASE, SIR! I KNOW I'M ONLY USING YOU FOR PRACTICE ...

...BUT IF THERE'S, ANYTHING WRONG AT THE END, MY SENPAI WILL FIX YOU UP!

I'M SORRY, COULD YOU SAY THAT AGAIN? IN MORE DETAIL THIS TIME.

OH... DARN, THAT'S A LET-DOWN ...

SO MUCH FOR MY IDEA TO MAKE YOU LOOK LIKE DEPP IN *SLEEPY HOLLOW*...

...I NEED TO REACH OUT TO THOSE WHO HAVEN'T BEEN RECEPTIVE TO MY MESSAGE BEFORE...

IF I'M TO SAVE THE SOULS OF MORE PEOPLE...

Yessss!!

UM...ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO DO THIS?!

A CONSTANT IMAGE IS CRUCIAL FOR A GOD.

ACTUALLY, I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT CHANGING UP MY LOOK FOR AGES.

REALLY? YOU'RE GOING TO TREAT IT LIKE A STORE GETTING A NEW LOGO DESIGN?

SHOP

SHOP

I FIGURE, IF I CHANGE MY TRADE-MARK FLOWING LOCKS ...

...MAYBE THEY'LL THINK IT'S A NEW RELIGION, AND COME RIGHT BACK TO LISTEN WITH FRESH EARS.

UM, IN THAT CASE...

NO, THANKS. I'M TERRIFIED OF WHAT THE DEVAS WILL SAY...

C'MON, BUDDHA! TRY OUT A NEW YOU!

PLUS, I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO VISIT A HAIR SALON!

JESUS'S SHIRT: SAVIOR

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: PRINCE OF RENOUNCING

HEY, THAT'S A GREAT IDEA! GOOD FOR YOU!

UH, ARE YOU SURE?

COULD YOU HELP HIM OUT WITH THAT?

...ONE OF MY COWORKERS WANTS TO DO SCALP MASSAGES.

OH...

WOW...

THAT ONE? OKAY...

WELL, IT'S ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THAT BUILDING THERE...

ARE YOU HERE FOR THE MASSAGE? RIGHT THIS WAY.

W-WHAT IS THIS?! A MODELING RUNWAY?!

AH...

I'M GOING TO SLIP A WARM TOWEL BEHIND YOUR NECK...

AND WE'LL PUT A BLANKET OVER YOU...

WHAT?

HUH?

NOW JUST LEAN BACK ...

IT'S SO CHIC!!

THEY DO EVERYTHING TO MAKE YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE.

THIS PLACE IS SO GLITZY ...

T-THAT'S PERRIER!

IT'S JUST LIKE WHEN I LIVED IN THE PALACE AS A PRINCE...

BACK IN THE DAY

WHEN I NEVER RELAXED.

UGH... IT'S TAKING ME BACK TO THE OLD DARK DAYS, WHEN MY HEART WAS LOCKED UP TIGHT!

OH, I CAN FEEL THAT YOUR EYES ARE VERY STRAINED.

W-WHY IS HE TRYING TO MAKE ME RELAX MORE? WHAT WILL HE DO THEN?!

NO ...

ARE YOU FEELING ANY ITCHING?

HOW IS THE TEMPER-ATURE OF THE TOWEL?

W-WOW, HOW DID HE GET THAT PERSONAL INFORMATION OUT OF ME SO EASILY?!

SOME-TIMES ...

DO YOU DO A LOT OF DESK WORK?

IT'S, UH... NOTHING MUCH...

NO...

...AND THEN CAUSING MY DOWNFALL?! WELL, YOU WON'T FOOL ME!

WHERE DO YOU WORK?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, A BUDDHA? (LOL)

LURING ME INTO RELAX-ING...

IS... IS HE MARA?!

I'M A BUDDHA ...

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR A LIVING?

HUH?!

Uh SHH ooo

HMM... THIS CUSTOMER...

THE STYLIST HAS GONE QUIET... WHAT HAVE I DONE?!

...AND USED THAT LEXICAL WEAPON... "NOTHING MUCH"!!!

...BUT I SHUT MY HEART AGAINST THIS UNEXPECTED QUESTION...

I... I CONSIDER MYSELF AN ENLIGHTENED PERSON...

...AND WORKS OUT ALL THE STRESS AND TENSION IN MY BODY!!

...THE MORE HIS HAIR(?) STIMULATES MY PALM'S PRESSURE POINTS...

THE MORE I MASSAGE HIS HEAD...

I WONDER WHAT THOSE FANCY PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT OVER THERE?

HMM...

WHAT DO I HAVE IN COMMON TO TALK ABOUT?

BUT HE'S SO STY-LISH ...

OH NO... IS HE ANGRY AT ME?

I HAVE TO FOCUS FOR ALL I'M WORTH, JUST TO STAY CONSCIOUS!

OH! I'M SORRY! OF COURSE NOT!!

NOT PARTICULAR-LY...

UM... DO YOU LIKE STAND-UP COMEDY, SIR?

I HAVE TO SAY SOMETHING TO EASE THE TENSION!

WELL, NO...

...BUT BETWEEN ANY TWO THINGS, THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING SHARED IN COMMON.

THE POOR STYLIST OVER THERE IS LOSING HER CONFIDENCE, TOO...

I DON'T KNOW WHY I THOUGHT SOMEONE LIKE YOU WOULD BE INTO COMEDY...

JESUS EVERY-THING'S BUSY AT THIS TIME OF YEAR, SO I GET FEWER BLOG COMMENTS AND FORUM POSTS ON MY SITE. IT'S SAD, BUT AT THE END OF THE GOLDEN WEEK HOLIDAY EVERY YEAR, THE PEOPLE COME BACK!

...AND TETSURO DEGAWA-SAN SHARE SOMETHING IN COMMON WITH ME.

...I'VE RECENTLY DISCOVERED THAT THE TRIO DACHO CLUB...

THE TRUTH IS...

SHE BROUGHT UP THE TOPIC, AND HE MADE SURE IT DIDN'T JUST FIZZLE OUT...

N-NOW THAT'S VERY SMART!

WOW! WITH YOU?!

I HAVE NOT BEEN BRANDED, PERSONALLY...

BRAND ...?

...BUT I DO KNOW ABOUT BEING FORCED TO UNDERGO PUNISHMENT.

I PRESUME YOU'RE REFERRING ...

...TO THAT BRAND BEING PRESSED TO THEIR FACES?

WHAT WOULD THAT BE? LIKE, YOU ENJOY EATING BOILING HOT ODEN?

HE'S GOT THE KINDNESS OF A SAINT!

That's so funny.

ODEN ...?

...AS FORMS OF PUNISH-MENT...

I, TOO, HAVE BEEN FORCED TO BATHE IN BOILING OIL...

...AND DRINK A CUP OF POISON...

I WAS NOT, JUST AS THEY ARE NOT.

NO?

BOILING OIL...? WERE YOU HURT?

HUH ...?

THE FACT THAT HE WENT THROUGH THESE THINGS WITHOUT ANY REACTION SHOWED THAT HE DID NOT, IN FACT, HAVE ANYTHING IN COMMON WITH THE COMEDIANS.

I KNEW IT WAS YOU, JOHN-SAN!!

...THEY MUST BE RECEIVING SOME FORM OF DIVINE PROTECTION.

LIKE ME, THE DISCIPLE WHOM GOD LOVED ...

THIS IS MY USUAL BEAUTY SALON...

W-WHAT ABOUT YOU, JOHN-SAN?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

IS THAT YOU, BUDDHA-SAMA?

I'M JUST HERE AS A PLUS-ONE. THE TRUTH IS...

OH, N-NOT AT ALL...

IS THAT WHY YOU'RE HERE, TOO?

THEY ASKED IF THEY COULD TAKE PICTURES OF ME FOR THEIR CATALOG.

AH! I'M GLAD!

JESUS! WHY THE HALO?!

THE HAIRCUTTER MIGHT BE A STUDENT...

...BUT HE'S STILL GOOD ENOUGH TO MAKE JESUS-SAMA'S HALO SHINE EVEN BRIGHTER...

A... A MODEL?!

...JESUS IS ACTING AS A HAIRCUT MODEL FOR A STUDENT ...

HUH? WHY DO YOU ASK?

IS THAT... WISE? IS THE STUDENT GOOD ENOUGH...?

Y-YOU MEAN... THEY'RE CUTTING HIS HAIR FOR PRACTICE?

OH! THAT LIGHT!!

MUTTER

MUTTER

UM... UH- OH...?

THAT... DOESN'T LOOK GOOD...

THAT'S WEIRD... HOW DID THAT HAPPEN?

THIS IS REALLY BAD...

J-JESUS-SAMA LOOKS...

WOBBLE...

MTTR

OR...DOES IT LOOK STYLISH, ACTUALLY?

NO. NO, IT DEFINITELY DOES NOT.

IN THE MIRROR, JESUS'S EYES WERE FULL OF BENEVOLENT LOVE.

SO THAT'S THE LIGHT OF SELF-SACRIFICE?!

...THE SAME WAY THAT HE DID WHEN DIED UPON THE CROSS TO ABSOLVE HUMANITY OF ITS ORIGINAL SIN!!

I APOLOGIZE FOR THIS, SIR! I'LL MAKE SURE WE FIX YOU UP!!

I'M SORRY, BOSS!!

HEY... HOW DID YOU LET IT GET THAT BAD?!

WE CAN MAKE USE OF THEM TO GIVE YOU A STYLISH LOOK...

BUT DON'T WORRY!

Y-YOU HAVE SOME VERY INTERESTING COWLICKS, SIR...

W-WHEN DID I LEARN TO DO THAT ...?

IT'S MY HAIR. IT FEELS RESPONSIBLE FOR BEING THE SON OF GOD'S TRADEMARK...

...AND IS EXPRESSING THAT SYMBOLISM AS BEST IT CAN.

YES! I GET THAT IT'S A CROSS, BUT STILL!!

BING

BING

AAAH! THEY WENT COMPLETELY STRAIGHT!!

PLEASE, MY GOOD MAN, DON'T WORRY.

THIS WOULD HAPPEN TO ANYONE WHO CUTS MY HAIR...

MY LORD...

J-JOHN... NO!!

...AND BURN THESE SINNERS TO ASH?

SHALL I CALL FOR FIRE TO RAIN DOWN FROM HEAVEN...

THIS ISN'T SHAME-FUL!!

W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN, JOHN?

HOW DARE THEY SHAME YOU LIKE THIS...

APPARENTLY THIS SALON IS WHERE JOHN-SAN ALWAYS GOES.

OH, THAT'S RIGHT, I REMEMBER THAT...

TO THINK THAT I'VE ALLOWED JESUS-SAMA TO UNDERGO MY SAME PUNISH-MENTS!!

ARRGH!

KING OF THE JEWS

I STILL WEAR THAT REGULARLY, SO THIS PUNISHMENT IS NOTHING TO ME...

THEY MOCKED ME AS THE "KING OF THE JEWS" AND PUT THE CROWN OF THORNS UPON MY HEAD.

YOU WENT ON VACATION BECAUSE OF A SINGLE CENTIMETER?!

Out tomorrow, too.

I'm out today.

...AND USED ALL YOUR VACATION DAYS TO RECUPERATE UNTIL IT GREW BACK...

YOU SAID YOU GOT YOUR BANGS CUT JUST A CENTI-METER TOO SHORT...

YOU UNDERGO THAT PAINFUL ASCETIC TRAINING EVERY DAY?!

I SET FIRE TO THE SALON THAT PERSECUTED MY HAIR...

SWISH

...AND WILL LIGHT THIS ONE AFLAME, TOO!!

I WILL NOT TOLERATE THIS ABUSE...

I NEVER HAVE ...

WAIT...A SMARTPHONE?

J-JOHN! PUT THE LIGHTER AWAY!!

STOP, JOHN! DON'T FLAME THEM ONLINE FOR THIS!! THEY DON'T DESERVE IT!!

Latest Rum

Stylist's Nam

Feedbac

...AND WHEN A BAD RUMOR STARTS, IT SPREADS LIKE FLAME...

THIS NEIGHBOR-HOOD IS PACKED WITH COMPETING SALONS...

WAS IT REALLY WORTH WRITING THIS MUCH...

OH, GOSH, LOOK AT HOW LONG THAT POST IS!!

DELETE THAT RIGHT NOW!

Never!

OH NO!! YOU POSTED IT?!

YAH!!

There are 46 reviews.

John-san (M / 2000s / Apostle)

Overall★ Ambience★ Customer Service★ Technique★

And a young man severed my hair with the silv
fangs of a poisonous snake, saying, "Come and
And the hair writhed like a serpent that lurks in th
depths of the forest, saying, "Come and see."
And the hair then stood on end like the lightning of a
stormy night, saying, "Come and see."
Lastly, the hair lay as flat and meager as the ground of the
desert...
Read More >>

[Coupon/Service Used] No coupon Regular cut

Take-san (M / 20s / Student)

Overall★★★★★ Ambience★★★★★ Customer Service★★★★★ Technique★★★★★

it was my third visit, and like the others, they were very cool and helpful. Looking forward to my next trip!

...JUST TO COMPLAIN... ABOUT...

YOUR WRITING IS TOO EMOTIONAL AND IT'S NOT GOING TO MAKE SENSE TO ANYONE!!

DELETE THAT REVIEW NOW, BEFORE PEOPLE GET THE WRONG IDEA!!

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN ...?

HUH ...?

I FEEL LIKE THE ONLY THING BURNING HERE IS JOHN-SAN...

PEOPLE WILL BE TERRIFIED IF THEY ASSUME THOSE ARE PROPHECIES!

THEY'RE GOING TO THINK THAT IT'S A NEW CHAPTER OF REVELATION!

HONESTLY, JOHN, I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT ALL THE FUSS IS ABOUT.

THIS CALLS FOR...

HIS DISCIPLE IS SO PERSISTENT ABOUT THIS...

LOOK AT WHAT A WASTELAND THEY'VE MADE OF YOUR BEAUTIFUL HAIR!

BUT IT'S UNFOR-GIVABLE !!

...AND I ASKED HIM, "WILL YOU GIVE ME THIS HAIRCUT?"

I SHOWED HIM THIS CROSS...

OH...

MAN, THIS IS A STRETCH ...

YES! I DID!

DIDN'T I, BUDDHA?

HUH? OH! YEAH! YOU SAID THAT!

WHAT...? YOU DID?

OF COURSE. BEAUTY IS IN THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER.

NOW I'VE MADE THE SAME MISTAKE I MADE WITH MOSES-SAN...

HUH? WHAT HAPPENED WITH MOSES-SAN?

DON'T WORRY! I LOVE THIS HAIRCUT!

NOW I FEEL SO RUDE!!

OH, I HAD NO IDEA!

HE BELIEVED IT!!

...HIS HAIRSTYLE THAT RECREATES THE MIRACLE OF THE PARTING OF THE RED SEA...

I SPOKE A BIT RUDELY ABOUT THE "MOSES CUT"...

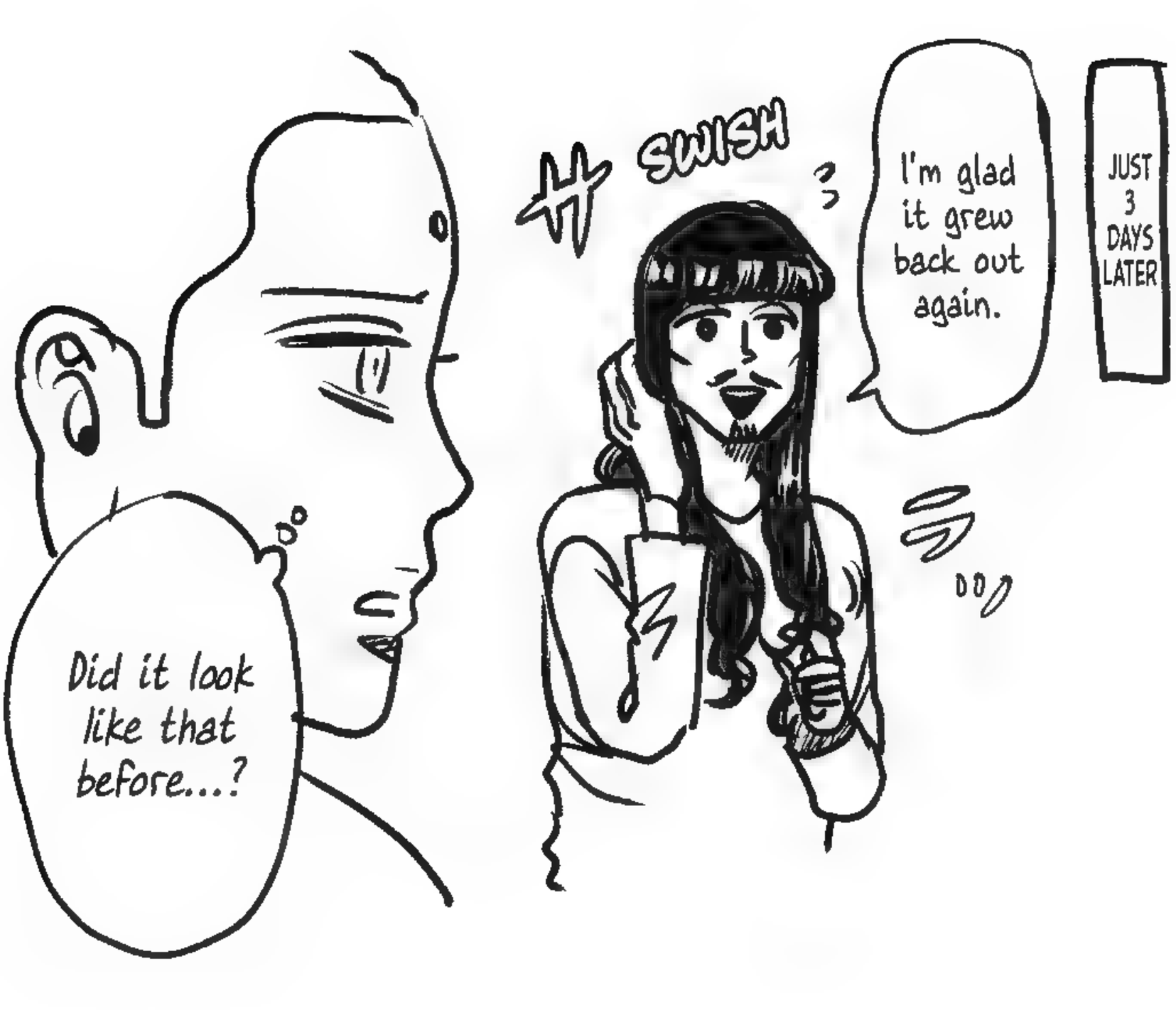
WELL, I SHOULD HAVE LEARNED MY LESSON. HE HAS A VERY EXACTING AESTHETIC ...

I SAID, "IN THE MORTAL WORLD, THEY HAVE TREATMENTS THAT CAN HELP WITH THAT"...

UH... WHAT DID YOU SAY...?

BUDDHA COULDN'T HELP BUT WONDER IF THE "MOSES CUT" WAS ACTUALLY THE RESULT OF BEING SURROUNDED BY INCONSIDERATE CO-WORKERS.

I'VE GOT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT RESPECTING PEOPLE'S TASTES...


Did it look like that before...?
SWISH
I'm glad it grew back out again.
JUST 3 DAYS LATER

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

CHAPTER 83 TRANSLATION NOTES

Dacho Club and Tetsuro Degawa,
These are two examples of veteran comedians who are known for their outlandish reactions to pranks or stunts (reaction *geinin*). Many of their televised acts are based around undertaking painful punishments, such as being pinched by lobsters, being forced to eat extremely hot dishes like boiled oden (a seasonal hot pot assortment), or trying not to fall into a tub of very hot water.

Boiling oil and poison,
In apocryphal traditions outside of Biblical sources, it is said that John was plunged into boiling oil in Rome, and emerged miraculously unscathed, which supposedly converted everyone who witnessed the act to Christianity. Some other writings tell a story of John drinking poison to demonstrate his faith.

Revelation,
The Book of Revelation is the final book of the Bible, and is written by a "John" whom early sources (and this manga) considered to be John the Apostle. As an apocalyptic book describing future events, Revelation is famous for its fantastical imagery describing the Second Coming of Jesus, including such figures as the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, the Beast, and the Seven Angelic Trumpeters. Pertinent to this scene in particular is the sixth chapter, which features four "beasts" who each repeat the phrase "Come and see."

Parting of the Red Sea,
Moses was chosen to lead the Israelite slaves out of Egypt into Canaan. With the Egyptians pursuing them to the edge of the Red Sea, Moses raised his staff and called upon the power of God to part the Red Sea so that the Israelites could pass safely.

...SIMPLY MOVING ABOUT A LITTLE AT REGULAR INTERVALS IS CONSIDERED TO BE ALMOST AS VALUABLE.

IT'S LONG BEEN SAID THAT WALKING IS GOOD FOR HUMAN HEALTH ...

...BUT IN RECENT YEARS...

THE POINT IS THAT I WANT YOU TO BREAK YOUR STASIS EVERY NOW AND THEN.

IF YOUR APPLE WATCH DETECTS THAT YOU HAVEN'T MOVED FOR AN HOUR...

...IT WILL VIBRATE TO TELL YOU TO GET UP AND MOVE AROUND.

...THEN EVERY THREE HOURS ...

NO, FIVE HOURS ...

I'M JUST CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR HEALTH...

WHAT I'M SAYING IS...

I'M JUST SAYING, IF NOT EVERY HOUR...

JESUS'S SHIRT: THOUSAND YEAR REIGN

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU DON'T WANT TO BREAK YOUR CONCENTRATION ...

IF THIS GOES AGAINST YOUR TEACHINGS, THEN I RETRACT AND APOLOGIZE...

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: KOSALA

I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'RE ALIVE OR DEAD... I JUST NEED YOU TO MOVE AT LEAST ONCE EVERY THREE DAYS!!

It's been an entire week!!!

IT'S SAID THAT AFTER HIS ENLIGHTENMENT, BUDDHA KEPT MEDITATING FOR 21 DAYS.

SHAKE カリ

SHAKE カリ

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 84

Between a Rock and a Flabby Place

BUDDHA
ALL MY STATUES ARE SITTING OR LYING DOWN, BUT I DID STAND AND MOVE, YOU KNOW. MY EXERCISE WAS MY TEACHING, AND MY ASCETIC TRAINING WAS HOW I PUSHED MYSELF.

...AND I JUST COULDN'T FIND THE RIGHT MOMENT TO STOP, UNTIL...

GRUNK

TUG

TUG

CRACK

OH, MAN, I'M SO SORRY. I ONLY STARTED IT BECAUSE I NEEDED A BREAK TO RECHARGE MY MIND FOR NEW MANGA IDEAS...

YOU CAN'T! TRUST ME!

I KNOW, BUT I'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOR TWO THOUSAND YEARS NOW...

...AND EVEN THEY SAY YOU SHOULDN'T JUST SIT DOWN ALL THE TIME!

EUREKA

BEEP

YOU HAVE TO DO BETTER! LOOK, I RECORDED THIS EPISODE OF A SCIENCE AND HEALTH SHOW...

PLUS, IT'S SUPPOSED TO HELP WITH GETTING THE CHILLS.

THAT SHOULDN'T MATTER.

ANYWAY, I'M ALREADY DECEASED...

コーサラ国

PLUS, THERE'S ONE OTHER PROBLEM THAT ARISES FROM SITTING ALL THE TIME...

SURE, BUT IF I'M CAREFUL ENOUGH...

YOU COMPLAIN ABOUT YOUR STOMACH HURTING EVERY SUMMER, REMEMBER?

Look down

Bathroom break!

I'm getting cankles.

...AND IT WAS SUCH AGONY THAT I DIED AND WENT TO HEAVEN!!

I WAS NAILED IN PLACE SO I COULDN'T MOVE FOR AN ENTIRE DAY...

HANG ON, THEY WEREN'T LETTING YOU GO DOWN TO USE THE BATHROOM EVERY HOUR, WERE THEY?!

YOU MIGHT BE SUFFERING FROM SWELLING THAT COMES FROM SITTING ALL DAY!

SWELLING

ARE YOU GETTING HEAVIER ON YOUR LOWER HALF?

W-WELL... I'M GLAD YOU'RE SEEING SENSE NOW, AT LEAST...

OOOH, THAT'S SCARY! YES, I DON'T WANT TO BE SEATED ALL DAY LONG!

I see!

seeee!

SWELLING... OHHH! SO THAT'S WHAT THIS IS! SWELLING!!

B-BUT I'M SORRY, I JUST CAN'T...

I MEAN, YOU MAKE IT SOUND VERY TEMPTING. A SMALL WATCH WITH A HANDY VIBRATION REMINDER, AND ALL...

NO, BUDDHA. IT'S ALL RIGHT. I DON'T WANT IT...

...BUT THEN YOU STARTED TALKING ABOUT THE APPLE WATCH...

...WHICH PUT ME ON GUARD, IN CASE YOU STARTED TALKING ABOUT ACTUALLY BUYING IT...

I'M ALREADY WORKING ON THAT MYSELF, SO WE SHOULD...

AT ANY RATE, YOU'RE WILLING TO IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH!

IT'S TRUE THAT I'VE BEEN WORRIED ABOUT THE HEAVY FEELING IN MY LEGS LATELY...

ER, HANG ON. WHEN DID YOU SAY YOU WANTED IT THE FIRST TIME...?

KTUNK...

UM... YOU DON'T HAVE TO...

I'LL NEVER CLAIM...

...TO WANT SUCH A THING AGAIN!!

JESUS HAS SPENT SO LONG SITTING CROSS-LEGGED ON A TATAMI MAT BEFORE A TEA TABLE THAT IT'S HARD TO BE CERTAIN IT WAS REALLY ME AT THE LAST SUPPER. THE BEST EXERCISE I'VE GOTTEN IS PLAYING INGRESS... I MEAN, DELIVERING MY SERMONS!

JESUS, GRAB HOLD OF JUNIOR TO KEEP HIM STEADY!

WE HAVE TO OPEN THE DOOR...

HUP

KTUNK

AN EARTH-QUAKE!!

KTUNK

KTUNK

KTUNK

BUDDHA...

MAYBE WE NEED A TENSION POLE FOR JUNIOR'S HEAD...

WHEW... I THINK IT'S OVER.

PAUSE

SWISH

HUH? WHAT FOR? THE THING YOU SAID EARLIER...?

I'M SORRY... SO SORRY...

THE THING IS...

...AND HE MAY HAVE MENTIONED THAT HE COULD DO THAT, TOO...

Message Dad Details

The Apple Watch's vibration feature is so nice

The one that shakes?

I can get up in the morning without needing an alarm that disturbs Buddy

Dad can't handle that

Huh?

I MAY HAVE TOLD MY DAD THAT I LIKED THE APPLE WATCH'S VIBRATION FEATURE...

B-BUT THANKS TO BEING FORCED TO MOVE LIKE THIS...

SO IF I DON'T MOVE FOR AN ENTIRE HOUR, HE DOES THAT...

APPARENTLY, IT DOES ENTER A NIGHT-TIME MODE TO ALLOW FOR SLEEPING.

DOES YOUR DAD UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT OF SILENT MODE?!

...I'VE GOT A LOT MORE ENERGY THAN BEFORE! I'M NOT GETTING TIRED! IT MUST BE HAVING A BENEFICIAL EFFECT!!

R-RIGHT. I'M SURE THAT IF I STAY MOBILE FOR AWHILE, HE'LL FORGET ABOUT IT SOON ENOUGH...

...THEN YES, IT'LL GET ME STANDING!

IF HIS IDEA OF SILENT MODE INVOLVES SHAKING THE EARTH'S MANTLE...

I ALWAYS PREFER TO FOCUS ON SOMETHING AND FINISH IT IN ONE GO, AFTER ALL.

YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT ABOUT ME, THOUGH. I MAY FORGET WITHOUT A DRAMATIC REMINDER LIKE THAT.

DON'T BE TOO HARD ON YOURSELF, BUDDHA...

UGH! THEN IT'S NO WONDER I DON'T NOTICE THESE THINGS ON MY OWN!

...AND FLOAT OVER TO THE KITCHEN TO PUT ON TEA...

THAT'S RIGHT. YOU SIT DOWN TO SKETCH OUT SOME MANGA PAGES, THEN DO SOME ZEN MEDITATION FOR A BREAK ...

THAT SOUNDS LIKE A REALLY LOCALIZED APOCALYPSE!

...IT COULD MEAN DRASTIC CHANGES IN TACHIKAWA.

IF THE DEVAS START IMPLEMENTING A SILENT MODE OF THEIR OWN OUT OF CONCERN FOR YOU...

SO HERE'S MY IDEA...

Keep it together!

OH NO! HAVE I REALLY BEEN CUTTING CORNERS THAT WAY?!

BLUSH

THERE ARE SOME NOWADAYS THAT HAVE REALLY ADVANCED ERGONOMIC SUPPORT!

WHAT IF WE CHANGED FOCUS...

...AND BOUGHT YOU A NICE CHAIR, INSTEAD?

I-I MEAN, THAT'S OKAY...

WHAT ...?!

I HEAR THEY COST LIKE ¥100,000.

YEAH, BUT... THOSE ARE REALLY EXPENSIVE...

WHAT...?!

IT...IT'S OKAY...

DRIP...

...AND THAT HOLDING THEM CAUSES YOUR STIGMATA TO BLEED ...

EVER SINCE YOUR CRUCI-FIXION, YOU SAID YOU HAVE A FEAR OF NAILS...

I CAN'T USE A CHAIR THAT'S ALL SMEARED WITH BLOOD, ANYWAY!

NO, IT'S FINE! DON'T HURT YOURSELF LIKE THIS!

I KNOW I CAN MAKE SOMETHING... IF IT'S FOR YOU...

NO... I *CAN* DO IT FOR YOU.

YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW HOW TO MAKE A CHAIR?!

HAVE YOU FORGOT-TEN THAT I USED TO WORK AS A CARPEN-TER?

JESUS, I APPRECIATE THE OFFER, BUT...

IF I DO THAT, I CAN MAKE YOU A CHAIR THAT ISN'T BLOODY!

...DON'T USE A SINGLE NAIL...

THE TRADITIONAL CARPENTERS WHO BUILD SHRINES AND TEMPLES...

THAT WOULD BE EVEN MORE INTIMIDATING! I CAN'T SIT ON THAT!

...SO IT MIGHT BE A BIT OF A WAIT...

BUT IT DOES REQUIRE ABOUT TEN YEARS OF LEARNING, APPARENTLY ...

OH, REALLY? THEY COULD RECOMMEND THE BEST ONE, THEN!

I'M PRETTY SURE THEY HAD AN ASSORTMENT AT THE DEVAS' OFFICE...

...WHAT ABOUT ONE OF THOSE HIGH-TECH CUSHIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT STORE?

W-WELL, IN THAT CASE ...

!

THEN IF I MAKE A SHRINE TO GO ALONG WITH IT--!!

PLUS, THERE'S NO SPACE TO PUT ANOTHER CHAIR IN THIS PLACE...

IS IT MADE OF SOFT BAMBOO...?

THEY USED TO STEP ON THEM IN THE PAST...

I'M PRETTY SURE THEY SETTLED ON A RETRO MODEL.

BUT NOWADAYS ...

OH! YES, THOSE ARE BETTER AT CONSERVING SPACE.

LOOK, JUST FORGET ABOUT LEARNING THAT LINE OF WORK!

SO EVERYONE SQUASHES THEM IN THEIR CHAIRS!

...YOU CAN SIT ON THEM TO LESSEN YOUR FATIGUE FROM DESK WORK.

RATHER THAN STEPPING ON CURSED IMPS...

UM... SO...

...SO THAT FUNCTIONS JUST LIKE AN APPLE WATCH REMINDER!

OH, AND FROM WHAT I HEAR, THEY SOB AND WHIMPER, "I WON'T DO IT ANYMORE" AT REGULAR INTERVALS...

THIS IS AN ARRANGEMENT OFTEN SEEN IN BUDDHIST STATUES.

ANY WAY YOU WANT, AS LONG AS IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.

HOW AM I MEANT TO LOOK UPON THIS SIGHT, EXACTLY?

IF WE CAN'T STOP YOU FROM SITTING FOR LONG PERIODS...

...OR GET YOU A BETTER CHAIR...

IN THAT CASE...

AS A MATTER OF FACT, I GOT THIS GRAND OPENING COUPON AT A PLACE RIGHT OUTSIDE THE TRAIN STATION!

BAM!

GRAND OPENING

LOW PRICE

...THEN WHAT IF YOU GO FOR REGULAR MASSAGES?

Jivaka-sensei

HERE IN THE MORTAL WORLD, IT'S ¥3,000 FOR AN HOUR, EVEN AT THE CHEAP RATE...

...MY PHYSICIAN JIVAKA-SENSEI MASSAGED ME...

AT THE STATION

ウィーン WEEE

WELCOME, WELCOME!

NO, I SHOULDN'T BE CHEAP AND TRY TO GET JIVAKA-SENSEI TO DO IT FOR FREE.

THAT WOULDN'T BE A GOOD IDEA...

MASSAGES DO WORK WELL, I'LL ADMIT...

WHEN I WAS OUT SPREADING MY TEACHINGS ...

A MASSAGE, HUH...?

EEEP!!

TWO VISITORS, THEN?

WOW, YOU'RE VERY KNOWLEDG-EABLE!

HUH?! WHAT'S WRONG, BUDDHA?!

SLIDE

J... JIVAKA-SENSEI?! WHY IS HE HERE?!

WELL, JUST FILL OUT THIS FORM, AND WE'LL CALL YOU WHEN WE'RE READY.

BUDDHA ...?

I'M SURE IT'LL WORK ON YOU, THEN!

WE CONSIDER HIM THE FOUNDER ...

...OF THE PRACTICE OF TRADITIONAL THAI MASSAGE!

WELL, SINCE I SPEND A LOT OF TIME STARING AT THE COMPUTER ...

SKWIK SKWIK

CHART

LET'S SEE. NAME: "SEI IESU" ...

OH, YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO CIRCLE WHAT'S FEELING FATIGUED?

OOOH, REALLY? ISN'T THAT NEAT, BUDDHA?

LOOK CAREFULLY, JESUS...

AT THE SHAPE OF THE BED...

HUFF HUFF

WHAT'S THE MATTER, BUDDHA?!

HUH ...?

CLATTER CLAT カラン ラン

BE CAREFUL, JESUS!!

...I'LL JUST CIRCLE MY HEAD--

WHAM

I BET YOU STICK YOUR HEAD IN FROM BELOW...

BOOP

HUH ...?

THAT MUST BE A SPECIAL TREATMENT BED FOR THOSE WITH HEADACHES.

WHY IS THERE A HOLE IN THE END OF IT? ...?

WHAT?! ARE YOU SURE HE WASN'T A CHEF?!

...AND WASH IT WITH BUTTER AND HONEY. THAT WAS JIVAKA-SENSEI'S SPECIALTY...

...THEN THEY SEVER YOUR SKULL FROM ABOVE, REMOVE THE BRAIN...

OH, IS THIS TO WARM MY FEET?

AHHH, IT'S SO NICE!

ｶﾅﾎﾟ… SPLISH

AND HE'S A PHYSICIAN, RIGHT? NOT A PÂTISSIER?

LET ME TELL YOU, HE USES A LOT OF BUTTER IN HIS TREATMENTS!

...PLEASE ENJOY A NICE FOOT BATH.

WHILE YOU'RE FILLING OUT YOUR FORMS ...

EXCUSE ME, SIR?!

DON'T GO TO SLEEP, JESUS!!

I FEEL LIKE I'M GOING TO FALL ASLEE...

WE DON'T DO THAT HERE!!!

ｽﾔｰ ZZZZ

...HE SURGICALLY EXTRACTS THE AFFLICTED BODY PART!!

WHEN THE PATIENT FALLS ASLEEP IN A WARM BATHTUB ...

THIS IS ONE OF SENSEI'S SPECIAL OPERATIONS, TOO...

WHAT WAS THAT FOR?! WHY ARE YOU ACTING OUT LIKE THIS?!

YOU KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT HIM!

BUT THE THING IS...

WELL, THIS IS QUITE A SURPRISE...

BUT... BUT YOU SAID YOU'VE INHERITED JIVAKA-SENSEI'S TECHNIQUES...

...AND A DESIRE TO HELP IMPROVE THE LIVES OF OTHERS.

ALL WE'VE INHERITED FROM HIM ARE MASSAGE TECHNIQUES ...

THIS LOOKS LIKE IT'LL END WELL...

UM... THANKS...

HA HA... YOU FIRST, BUDDHA!

SIR...!

A-ARE YOU OKAY, BUDDHA?!

AAAAAGH!!

HUH...? WHAT IS THAT?

TREATMENT

ONCE HE'S HEALED IN BODY AND SPIRIT BY A FAMILIAR MASSAGE ...

SO PLEASE, ALLOW US TO MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER!

!!

LEAP

PRO WRESTLING ...?

UM... ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SIR?

I'M COMING TO SAVE ...

THAT'S STRANGE. USUALLY JIVAKA-SENSEI GOES FOR ANOTHER ROTATION AFTER THIS POINT...

...HIS TEACHINGS HAVE REALLY SOFTENED AS THEY WERE PASSED DOWN...

AHH... WITH THE PASSAGE OF TIME...

ZWOOP

THE MASSEUSE GAVE HIM A STAMP OF APPROVAL: SUPERNATURALLY GOOD HEALTH.

UM... THANKS...

YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, JESUS. GO AHEAD AND ENJOY A MASSAGE...

How Jivaka-sensei would do it...

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

CHAPTER 84 TRANSLATION NOTES

Kosala,
The name of a kingdom in ancient India that was positioned adjacent to the territory of the Shakyas, the people who gave birth to Gautama Buddha. A king of Kosala at the time of the Buddha's life, Virudhaka, was born to a servant of the Shakyas, and is said to have been the one who later invaded and wiped out the clan.

Thousand Year Reign,
In the Book of Revelation, it is stated that after Christ's return, the souls of the faithful who were killed for being faithful to him shall be resurrected and join Christ in a thousand-year reign over the earth, after which the rest of the souls of the dead will be revived.

***Tameshite Gatten!*,**
A long-running television show on NHK, Japan's public broadcaster. Translating to roughly "Try It and Eureka!" the program provides a look at common-sense knowledge about science and lifestyle news (nowadays they might be called "life hacks") to improve the lives of viewers. The show's famous pose and logo iconography is a raised fist over a flat palm, to imitate the palm-smacking "Oh!" moment of understanding.

Cursed imps,
Called *preta* in Sanskrit or *gaki* in Japanese, and sometimes translated as "hungry ghost," these creatures are often thought to be the souls of those who were greedy or deceitful in a previous life, and are cursed to be starving. In some Buddhist art, figures such as the Four Heavenly Kings or the Niô guardian statues that stand at the gates of temples are depicted stepping upon these imps, which are believed to be so ravenous that they absorb one's physical pain and fatigue.

Jivaka,
The personal doctor of Gautama Buddha in life. Jivaka took on a reputation as a great healer and wise physician, and is revered in many traditions as a kind of Buddhist saint of healing.

SOMETIMES THEY WAX PHILOSOPHICAL ...

...THEY ARE OVER-WHELMED BY THE VASTNESS OF SPACE AND THE BREADTH OF TIME ITSELF.

WHEN PEOPLE LOOK AT THE STARS IN THE NIGHT SKY...

...TO GO STARGAZING TONIGHT?

BUDDHA, DO YOU WANT...

...AND SOMETIMES THEY WAX ROMANTIC...

AND THERE ARE TIMES WHEN I FEEL I MIGHT BE FORGETTING SOMETHING... VERY IMPORTANT...

THE LIGHT IN TOKYO IS TOO STRONG. YOU CAN'T SEE THE STARS.

UH...

JESUS'S SHIRT: ★ OF BETHLEHEM

YES, MY DAD DID THAT. AND NOW...

OH! THEY FORETOLD YOUR BIRTH WITH A STAR, TOO, DIDN'T THEY?

IN ANCIENT TIMES, MAN LOOKED TO THE STARS FOR MESSAGES FROM GOD ...

HE SOUNDS SO METRO-POLITAN...

WHERE IS THIS COMING FROM?

It's easier to just make more stars.

Flick controls?

...AND I'M AFRAID THAT HE MIGHT HAVE LEFT ME A BACKLOG OF STARLIGHT MESSAGES TO CATCH UP ON!

HE'S LET HIS CELL PHONE CONTRACT LAPSE BECAUSE IT'S "TOO HARD TO UNDERSTAND"

...

I'VE HEARD OF DOWNGRADING TO AN OLDER MODEL, BUT THIS IS RIDICULOUS!!

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 85

Pillow of Dreams, Roof of Stars

JESUS THE INDOOR TYPE, SO HE DOESN'T MIND THE RAINY SEASON. BUT IT HURTS NOT TO BE ABLE TO GO TO THE VIDEO STORE OR MINI MART. HOPEFULLY IT LETS UP SOON.

...BUT WHY IS HE TRYING TO SEND DIVINE MESSAGES BY BLIND CARBON COPY, ANYWAY?!

Excuse me, but I don't give my private email address to the other angels, so if you must send to all, please use BCC, because everyone can see my address on this email.

I KNOW IT'S AN EASY MISTAKE TO MAKE...

GONG!

...AND MIXED UP "CC" WITH "BCC," AND IT MADE HIM UPSET WITH THE WHOLE SYSTEM...

HE WAS TRYING TO PUT OUT A MASS E-MAIL WITH HIS DIVINE WORD IN IT...

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: LOCUSTS

JUST TO CLARIFY, YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT THE END OF THE WORLD, RIGHT?

More than the email server...

I KNOW. I THINK PART OF THE DECISION IS THAT THE STARS IN THE SKY WILL REMAIN IN SERVICE FOR A LOT LONGER BEFORE THEY EXPIRE...

...I ORDERED A TICKET FOR MOM TO COME BACK DOWN TO EARTH...

TO TELL THE TRUTH ...

MAYBE WE'D HAVE TO GET OUT OF THE CITY...

I KNOW. IT'S TOUGH IN TOKYO...

AT THIS POINT, IT'S LIKE SOMEONE COMPLAINING THAT THEY LEFT A MESSAGE ON YOUR PAGER! WHO HAS ONE ANYMORE?!

WHERE CAN YOU EVEN GO TO SEE THE STARS?

OH, OF COURSE! GREEK MYTHOLOGY IS ALL OVER THE CONSTELLATIONS!

RECEPTION

RIGHT. SO HE SAID...

SO I ASKED HIM IF THERE'S ANYWHERE YOU CAN SEE THE STARS IN THE CITY ...

CUPID-SAN IS THE ONE AT THE RECEPTION DESK OF THE PEARLY GATES.

WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO TO THE ISLAND OF DREAMS INSTEAD?

STAR-GAZING IN THE CITY?

HA HA...

I'LL BE RIGHT WITH YOU!!

OH, MY GOODNESS! ZEUS-SAMA!!

You have a call from Zeus-sama!!

BEEP

MY BOSS ZEUS IS A VERY ...

NOW WILL YOU STOP ASKING QUESTIONS THAT HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH MY JOB?

Park

THERE'S ONE IN KOTO WARD! IT'S A RECLAIMED LANDFILL, SO IT'S SURROUNDED BY WATER...

...SO MAYBE YOU CAN SEE THE STARS...

Koto Ward

Island of Dreams Park

Bay Route

Shinkiba Park

Heliport

WHAT?! IT'S REAL?!

...JUST GIVING ME THE SOFTER, GREEK VERSION OF SAYING "IN YOUR DREAMS"?

IS IT JUST ME, OR WAS CUPID...

I don't think that island exists ...

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? DID IT DO THAT MUCH DAMAGE TO YOUR PSYCHE?!

TRA-LA-LA LA-LA

AND THEN HE PUT ME ON HOLD FOR THIRTY MINUTES, WHILE THE LINE PLAYED "WHEN YOU WISH UPON A STAR"...

I FEEL BAD, BUT I HAD TO HANG UP EVENTUALLY...

...OF ASKING SARIPUTRA TO DRIVE US IN THE DEVAS' CAR...

I KNOW. WE HAVE THE OPTION ...

I'M SO GLAD! I WAS WORRIED WE'D HAVE TO TAKE ANOTHER CAR RIDE...

PERSONAL DRIVER

Y-YOU THINK SO?!

...BUT WE CAN GET BACK BY THE LAST TRAIN, RIGHT?

I ASSUME WE'D WANT TO GO LATE AT NIGHT...

YES, I CAN IMAGINE... IT'LL MEAN A BIG REARRANGE-MENT OF THE CELESTIAL MAP...

HA HA HA HA

KRRRR

PPPP

...BUT I'M AFRAID IT MIGHT END IN A HEADLINE LIKE "TWO MASSIVE STARS FALL FROM THE SKY"...

SO THIS IS THE ISLAND OF DREAMS...

いなご

Shinkiba Station

11:00 PM...

Thanks!

WELL, STILL, LET'S GO TONIGHT!

I'M SO EXCITED!!

IS THIS THE ISLAND OF DREAMS, OR NIGHTMARES?!

IT'S TRUE... I REALLY CAN'T SEE ANYTHING OUT HERE!!

I BET IT'S REALLY GORGEOUS HERE DURING THE DAY.

THERE'S SO MUCH GREEN-ERY ...

Ah!

KSHOF

MUNICIPA

LET'S USE OUR PHONES FOR FLASH-LIGHTS!

THERE ARE STREET LIGHTS, BUT THEY DON'T ADD UP TO MUCH.

SAY, THAT DOES SOUND LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A DREAM!!!

...MAYBE OUR SIX-TATAMI APARTMENT ONE DAY EXPANDS INTO AN EIGHT-MAT SIZE?

...AND THREW IT ALL OUT THE WINDOW ...

Wow, it's like a loft!

I'd have room for a desktop PC!!

BUT YOU KNOW, JESUS, IF WE TOOK OUR TRASH...

But then there'd be no view of the stars

I WAS HOPING FOR SOMETHING MORE ELECTRICAL, LIKE THE HAPPIEST PLACE ON EARTH...

HUH...?

OOOH!

OH...

...THERE SHOULD BE A LARGE CLEARING AROUND HERE...

UM, ACCORDING TO THE MAP AT THE ENTRANCE...

LOOK UP, JESUS!

WHILE IMPERMANENCE MAY BE THE RULE OF ALL THINGS, THESE STARS ARE STILL EXACTLY AS I REMEMBER THEM IN LIFE.

YOU REALLY CAN SEE PRETTY WELL HERE...

COMPARED TO THE STARS I SAW IN BETHLE-HEM...

...WAS WHEN HE WAS ALL ALONE, THE NIGHT BEFORE HIS CRUCIFIXION!!

OH! THE LAST STARRY SKY HE SAW...

JESUS?! WHY ARE YOU CRYING...?

JESUS, DO YOU HAVE ANY MEMORIES OF THE STAR OF BETHLE...

WHEN DID SO MANY ANGELS AND HOLY FIGURES FADE AWAY?!!

OVER HALF OF THEM HAVE FALLEN ...

UM... JESUS?

WE CAN'T BE HERE! WE NEED TO GO HELP...

SWISH

IS THIS HEAVENLY WORLD WAR II?!

OUR MOST HOLY STARS ARE FALLING LIKE METEOR SHOWERS...

THE NIGHT SKY IN SHINJUKU SUFFERS FROM DEPOPULATION AS BAD AS THE WORLD AFTER NOAH'S GREAT FLOOD.

YOU CAN'T COMPARE THIS SKY TO ONE WITH NO AIR POLLUTION OR STREET LIGHTS...

BUDDHA TRIES TO GET THROUGH THE RAINY SEASON WITH COOKING AND MEDITATION. BUT THE FOOD GOES BAD, SO HE CAN'T STOCKPILE IT, WHICH MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE TO STAY FOCUSED.

WE'D HAVE TO GO OUT TO THE SUBURBS, WHEN IT'S COLD AND CLEAR.

SO YOU CAN SEE THE STARS, BUT ONLY RELATIVELY SPEAKING.

I'M SO RELIEVED. I THOUGHT THEY WERE ALL GONE!!

OHHH... SO I JUST CAN'T SEE THEM, THAT'S ALL!!

TRUE, BUT IF YOU LOOK AT IT LIKE THE GREEKS...

...BUT THERE AREN'T ENOUGH STARS TO MAKE OUT CONSTELL-ATIONS.

I'VE BROUGHT A PLANI-SPHERE TO SEE THEM...

MOST OF THEM WERE BASED ON SOME PRANK OR ANOTHER.

...SOME PEOPLE MIGHT BE HAPPIER *NOT* TO SEE THE CONSTELL-ATIONS...

...THE MOST STUNN-ING OF THEM ALL...

BUT YOU KNOW...

ONCE THEY'RE OFFICIAL CONSTELLATIONS, YOU CAN'T JUST DELETE IT TO HIDE THE EVIDENCE.

FREEZER STUCKITTAURUS

SHOPLIFTING MINOR

THEY SHOULD STICK TO PRANKS ON THE INTERNET ...

THOSE PART-TIME KIDS SNEAKING INTO THE FREEZER AT THE CONVENIENCE STORE?

ZEUS: "I THOUGHT TRANSFORMING INTO AN ANIMAL WOULDN'T COUNT"

THERE ARE SO MANY, YOU SEE A NEW ONE EVERY SEASON.

...IS ZEUS-SAN'S "EXCUSES FOR ADULTERY" SERIES...

HMMM. CONSTELL-ATIONS...

OURS?

DO YOUR PEOPLE TURN THE ACTS OF SAINTS INTO CONSTELLATIONS?

ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE WHOSE CONSTELLATIONS ARE BASED ON WONDERFUL STORIES!

Nothing left out!

Good idea!!

Rahotsu!!

...THEY'LL CLAIM ALL THE INDIVIDUAL STARS ARE THE "RAHOTSU" CONSTELLA-TION, AFTER MY HAIR...

WELL, IF YOU LET THE DEVAS GET INVOLVED ...

YES, I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN...

I don't want that.

BUDDHA BOREALIS

I WOULDN'T MIND THAT, AS LONG AS THE WHOLE CONSTELLATION TURNS INTO SHOOTING STARS THE NEXT DAY ...

YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT SAND ART ON A COSMIC SCALE, RIGHT?

...WHEN LUCIFER WAS STILL AN ANGEL...

...HE WAS CALLED THE "MORNING STAR."

HUH? YOU MEAN VENUS?

WELL... IT'S NOT EXACTLY THE SAME AS A CONSTELLATION, BUT...

BUT I BET IF YOU TURNED YOUR ANGELS INTO CONSTELLATIONS, THEY'D BE GREAT!

AH!

FFT

...THEN WHAT DOES THAT SAY ABOUT LUCIFER-SAN...

IF HE'S BEING COMPARED TO THE BRIGHTEST AND MOST BEAUTIFUL LIGHT IN THE SKY...

HUH...? BUT I THOUGHT YOU COULD ONLY SEE VENUS AT DAWN AND DUSK...

SHOOT

OH, IT'S MOVING!! IS IT A SHOOTING STAR, OR A SATELLITE ...?!

L-LET'S STAY CALM! WE'RE NOT IN DANGER HERE...

AND LOOK! WITH LESS LIGHT, THE STARS ARE EVEN SHARPER!

GLINT

WOW, YOU'RE RIGHT! IS THAT VENUS?!

WHAT JUST HAPPENED?! DID WE RUN OUT OF BATTERY?!

I-I THINK SO... OH NO, THOSE SMARTPHONE FLASHLIGHTS REALLY CHEW UP THE POWER!

YOU DARE COME OUT HERE TO OUR TURF IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT...?

GLOW

L...LUCIFER AND BEELZEBUB?!

JUST LIKE MOTHS IN THE SUMMER, FLYING TOWARD THE CAMPFIRE!

...YOU MIGHT JUST GET ONE!!

I'VE NEVER FELT SO INSULTED...

...FOR A BATTLE WITH US?

OR HAVE YOU COME DRESSED LIKE THAT...

N-NO, WE'RE NOT...

ALTHOUGH IF YOU MESS WITH BUDDHA...

I WOULD ASK THE SAME OF YOU.

STOMP

STOMP

WHAT ARE YOU DOING ON THE ISLAND OF DREAMS?!

AND THERE ARE OTHER DEMONS, TOO ...

THIS IS OUR TERRITORY. YOU ARE THE INVADERS HERE.

ZSH

...AND BEAT US WHEN YOU'RE NOT EVEN WEARING CLEATS?!

YOU THINK YOU CAN WALK ONTO THIS ARTIFICIAL SOCCER TURF...

molten

OH, RIGHT. THIS IS AN ATHLETIC PARK...

OH...

IT'S OUR HOME FIELD!

PLUS, THIS IS WHERE WE ALWAYS PRACTICE...

NO... THIS PLACE ONCE BELONGED TO MY FAMILI-ARS.

But I've only got these flat sneakers...

IT BELONGS TO EVERY-ONE!

IT'S FINE! THIS IS A PUBLIC PARK!

YOU'RE RIGHT. I'VE MADE A HUGE MISTAKE. THIS ISN'T THE PLACE FOR ME...

THAT'S RIGHT. THIS ISLAND OF DREAMS ...

WHAT? IT DID, BEELZEBUB-SAN...?!

JESUS, YOU'RE REALLY WEAK-WILLED WHEN IT COMES TO TEAM SPORTS!!

It's a feast!

Yaaay!

...WAS ONCE AN ISLAND OF GARBAGE ...

A VERITABLE PARADISE FOR ME AND MY FLIES!!!

AND ON TOP OF THAT...

CALM DOWN, BEELZEBUB!

Look, I've got some food scraps!

...AND NOW IT'S IN SHAMBLES!

THE ISLAND OF DREAMS WAS LIKE A BIG GINGERBREAD HOUSE FOR MY FAMILIARS ...

THE PARK WAS SO BEAUTIFUL, IT WAS HARD TO IMAGINE THAT IT WAS BUILT ON TOP OF A LANDFILL.

LOOK, WE'RE LEAVING, ALL RIGHT?

UH... SORRY...

HOW CRUEL CAN THE GODS BE?!!

...YOU WANT TO STEAL OUR PRACTICE FIELD IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, WHEN IT'S PERFECT FOR DEMONS?!

AND YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST WALK AWAY...?

HUH?

W-WE'VE ALREADY GOTTEN WHAT WE CAME FOR...

YOU CAN'T CALL FOR HELP, CAN YOU?

YOUR PHONE'S BATTERIES ARE DEAD.

GRAB

LUCIFER !!

YOU REALLY ARE FOOLS...

GRAB

HUH?

HEY!

W-WE'RE FINE! THEY WEREN'T ...

TSK! IT'S THE HEAVENS! LET'S SCRAM!!

I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT...

NO! WE'RE KICKING YOU OUT SO WE CAN PRACTICE...

FLASH

BUDDHA-SAMA, JESUS-SAMA, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!

WATCH YOUR FEET, DUMMY!

DUCK UNDER THIS BRANCH, DUMMY!

WHERE ARE YOU TAKING US?

HUH...? ARE YOU ESCORTING US OUT?!

CAN YOU WALK ANY FASTER?! YOU'RE GOING TO MISS THE LAST TRAIN!!

...I'M ALWAYS ON CALL TO GIVE YOU A RIDE...

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU THAT WHEN YOU HEAD OUT LATE...

COME. LET'S TAKE THE EXPRESSWAY BACK.

I'M JUST GLAD I HEARD FROM CUPID-SAN...

...THEIR OWN HEAVENLY COHORT FELT MORE LIKE A MESSENGER FROM HELL THAN THE REAL THING...

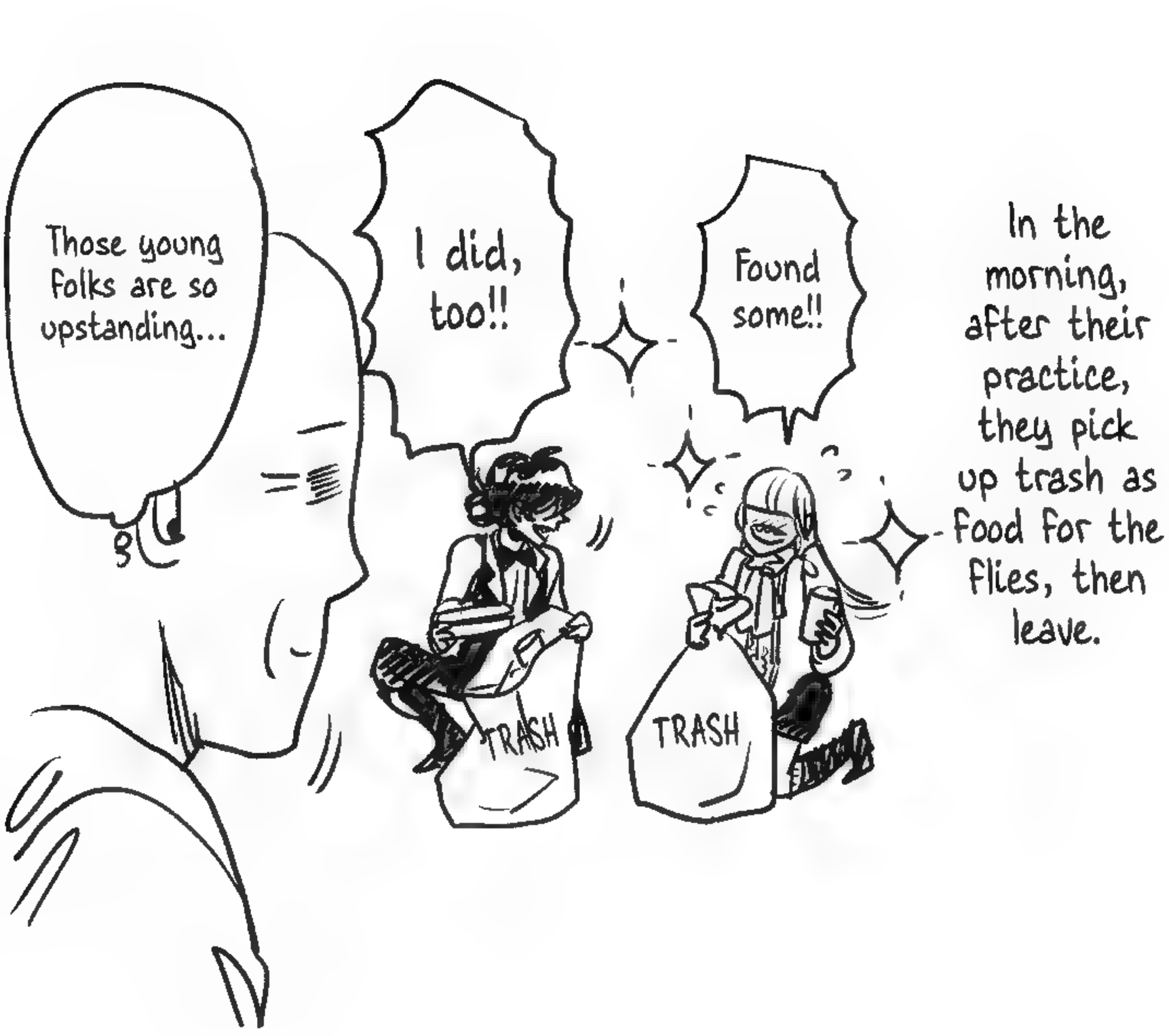
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL SIGHT!!

AHAHAHA! JUST LOOK!!

THE ONCOMING HEADLIGHTS LOOK JUST LIKE SHOOTING STARS!!

ON THAT DAY ...

GYAAAAAA


Those young folks are so upstanding...
I did, too!!
Found some!!
TRASH
TRASH
In the morning, after their practice, they pick up trash as food for the flies, then leave.

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

CHAPTER 85 TRANSLATION NOTES

Star of Bethlehem,

In the Gospel of Matthew, the Star of Bethlehem is a guiding star that led the three wise men from the east toward Jerusalem to be present for the birth of Jesus. It eventually guided them to Bethlehem, where the birth took place.

Locusts,

In the manga series *Buddha* by Osamu Tezuka (a favorite of Buddha, the character) there is a memorable scene in the first volume depicting Siddhartha's youth that features a major swarm of locusts.

Island of Dreams,

This area, known in Japanese as Yumenoshima, is an actual landfill island in Tokyo Bay. There is park space, a sports stadium, a botanical garden, and other attractions. Before it was postponed, the Tokyo Olympics were to hold their archery events here.

Tatami mats,

In Japan, room size in apartments and homes is measured by tatami mats, which are typically around 0.9 meters by 1.75 meters in the Tokyo area, although elsewhere the standard size might be slightly larger.

Lucifer,

The Latin name Lucifer, meaning "Light-Bringer," is traditionally associated with the planet Venus. Because Venus appears and disappears in the night sky, the name Lucifer was associated with Satan, the angel who fell from Heaven, although in the Bible it is generally agreed the original Hebrew refers to the morning star.

...IT'S IMPORTANT TO REGULARLY REORGANIZE YOUR STORAGE.

IN ORDER TO KEEP THINGS FRESH AND PLEASANT INDOORS...

...WE NEED TO BUY A SILVERWARE CUPBOARD...

HMMM. I THINK...

REALLY? YOU WANT TO COOK FOR YOURSELF?

I WANT TO BE ABLE TO COOK MY OWN FOOD WHILE YOU'RE OUT, TOO...

WELL, THE KITCHEN IS YOUR CASTLE. I DON'T MEAN TO INTRUDE...

...BUT I WOULD REALLY LIKE A SILVERWARE CUPBOARD!!

WHAT?! REALLY?!

I MEAN, WE *CAN* MAKE DO WITH WHAT WE HAVE...

THAT'S BECAUSE...

...YOU'RE ALWAYS CURLED INTO A BALL IN THE KITCHEN, STARVING...

WHEN-EVER I COME BACK HOME ...

...THE UNDERSIDE OF OUR SINK IS A HUGE STACKING PUZZLE...

...AND I CAN'T UNDO IT TO GET TO THE POT I NEED!!

Once I take them out, they won't fit back inside!!

SUDDENLY, INDIANA JONES DOESN'T SEEM SO OUT-LANDISH.

HAVE I REALLY BEEN FORCING YOU TO UNDERGO SUCH A TRIAL IN YOUR OWN KITCHEN?!

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 86

A God From A Cold Land

BUDDHA THE AREA AROUND TACHIKAWA STATION IS GETTING REALLY DEVELOPED, WHICH MADE ME WONDER IF THE DEVAS OR ANGELS HAVE A HAND IN THAT. BUT WHEN I SEE HOW TIME IS FROZEN AROUND MATSUDA HEIGHTS, I REALIZE I'M JUST IMAGINING THINGS.

OH, THIS IS SO EXCITING!

I KNOW SHIZUKO-SAN AND MATSUDA-SAN GO HERE...

IKEA

IT'S BECAUSE IT'S SO CLOSE, ACTUALLY...

IT'S SO CLOSE TO US, BUT YOU NEVER WANT TO GO, FOR SOME REASON...

...SO I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO VISIT!

Y-YOU WERE THAT TOR-MENTED BY IT?!

...LET IT ONLY HAPPEN AT THE 100-YEN SHOP!!

IF I MUST STRUGGLE AGAINST MY WORLDLY DESIRES ...

THEIR HOUSES LOOK GREAT EVER SINCE THE IKEA GOT BUILT...

CHECK IT OUT! THERE'S THE SHOW ROOM!

AND WE WON'T LOOSEN THE PURSE STRINGS, EITHER!

BUT IKEA'S STUFF ISN'T 100 YEN...

...BUT THEY'RE ALSO FILLING UP WITH PLENTY OF UNNECESSARY THINGS!

WAIT, AM I HALLUCINATING THIS?!

EVERYTHING IN THIS ROOM IS LESS THAN ¥100,000 BELIEVE IT!

IT'S GORGEOUS STUFF, BUT I CAN'T IMAGINE HOW MUCH IT WOULD COST TO GET AN ENTIRE SET...

AND THEY'RE SO STYLISH!!

HOW CAN THEY ALL BE LESS THAN ¥10,000...?

...ONLY ¥800?!

¥800

THAT... CAN'T BE TRUE... I MEAN, EVEN THIS STANDING SHELF HAS TO BE...

...AND NONE OF THEM WILL LOOK LIKE THIS!

...AND A SLIDING DOOR CLOSET...

WE HAVE TATAMI MATS, SAND FINISHED WALLS...

LOOK, BUDDHA! OUR PLACE CAN BE JUST AS STYLISH...

JESUS, I WILL TELL YOU THE SECRET. MAINTAIN THIS HAND SIGIL WHILE YOU ARE WITHIN IKEA...

UH... SIGIL...?

OH!! OF COURSE! THIS IS THE BEWITCHING MAGIC OF IKEA...

BUDDHA... HOW CAN YOU STAY SO CALM AND RATIONAL?!

JESUS CHRIST, OPEN YOUR EYES!!

...AND YOU CAN ESCAPE FROM THIS STRANGE ALTERNATE REALITY!

...ING ROOM ...S THAN ¥100,000 BELIEVE IT!

HOLD THIS SIGIL NEXT TO THE END OF THE PRICE...

YOU MUST NOT UNDO THIS SIGIL UNTIL WE HAVE LEFT IKEA BEHIND...

¥15

YOU'RE RIGHT! I'M BACK TO THE NORMAL WORLD!!

KITCHEN

I MUST GET THERE SOON...

THE EFFECTS OF THE SIGIL WILL NOT LAST LONG.

AND FIND A LITTLE SILVERWARE CUPBOARD...

TEP

LET'S MEET UP LATER.

I WILL GO AND VIEW THE KITCHEN AREA.

I MUST HURRY...

TEP TEP TEP TEP

KABAM

HE KITCHE
OF YOUR
DREAMS

BOOM

...TO GO ON TOP OF THE FRIDGE...

BAM

TH... THEY'RE HUGE!!

AND THIS IS... A BATH?!

WHAT IS THIS ...?

OH, A LOFT?

IT'S MY DREAM TO TRAVEL TO SWEDEN ONE DAY AND BUY HOME GOODS!

SCANDI ...?

EEEK! I JUST LOVE THIS SCANDI DESIGN!!

I FEEL LIKE I'VE SUDDENLY SHRUNKEN IN SIZE...

BUT THE NAME IKEA...

...SOUNDS SO JAPANESE!!

SWEDEN... SCANDI...

!

OF COURSE... WHY DIDN'T I REALIZE IT EARLIER?!

SCANDINAVIA... THESE SIZES...

...WHERE THE *HUMAN* PRODUCTS ARE SOLD?

COULD YOU TELL ME...

YES? HOW CAN I HELP YOU?

EXCUSE ME...

I SUPPOSE YOU'RE IN THE WRONG AREA, TOO, RIGHT?!

ER, SORRY IF I'M BEING OFFENSIVE OR IGNORANT.

FOR GIANTS...?

BUT I MEAN IN TERMS OF SIZE.

OH, SORRY! TECHNICALLY, I'M NOT ENTIRELY HUMAN EITHER...

...WHAT?

I JUST THOUGHT THAT THE SCANDINAVIANS, UH, THAT IS...

I SEEM TO HAVE WANDERED IN HERE BY MISTAKE...

THIS IS WHERE YOU SELL PRODUCTS FOR GIANTS, RIGHT?

It's so big and easy to use, Darling.

I THOUGHT THE NORSE GODS OFTEN MARRIED GIANTESSES ...

SO THIS MUST BE WHERE THEY BUY THEIR HOME GOODS!

...

SO...

IT'S INCREDIBLE THAT YOU HAVE PRODUCTS TO SELL TO ALL SIZES AND TRIBES!

PLAY SET ¥12,990

IS THAT THE KITCHEN FOR DWARFS, THEN?

A TRUE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL GETS THROUGH TROUBLE WITHOUT CORRECTING A CUSTOMER'S MISTAKE.

RIGHT THIS WAY, SIR!

...

WHICH WAY IS THE DISPLAY SIZED FOR HUMANS AND GODS?

JESUS
I WAS WALKING A NICE PATH UNDER THE MONORAIL WHEN I SAW A THEATER ADVER-TISING "DELUXE EXPLOSIVE SOUND." I WAS REALLY CURIOUS, BUT IT TURNED OUT TO BE *MAD MAX: FURY ROAD*. I WAS TOO WORRIED ABOUT WHAT PEOPLE MIGHT THINK OF ME.

...BUT SHOULD I CHECK WITH JESUS ONE MORE TIME BEFORE I GRAB IT AT THE WAREHOUSE?

I FOUND JUST WHAT I WAS LOOKING FOR...

WELL, SHE WAS VERY HELPFUL.

...BUT FROM WHAT I REMEMBER ABOUT THEM...

I DON'T HAVE MUCH FACE TO FACE EXPERIENCE ...

PLUS, I NEED TO TELL HIM ABOUT THE DISPLAYS FOR THE NORSE GODS...

DINING

THEN I'VE GOT JUST THE THING FOR YOU!

HUH?

ER, YES.

BUT WE CAN'T PUT ANY HOLES IN THE WALLS...

MMM, THAT'S NICE. I LIKE HOW IT TUCKS INTO THE WALL.

IT'S A NEW LINE OF PRODUCTS ESPECIALLY FOR URBAN RESIDENTS...

I THOUGHT IKEA EMPLOYEES WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO INTERACT UNLESS YOU ASKED THEM FOR HELP...

DO YOU LIVE IN A RENTAL?

IF I USE THE SPACE OVER THE TV, I CAN BUY MORE BLU-RAYS!

...USES SPECIAL MISTLETOE NAILS...

...THAT WON'T DAMAGE THE WALLS OF YOUR HOME.

OUR NEW *BALDR* SERIES...

Baldr

A-AND IT'S SO CHEAP!! THAT'S WITHIN OUR BUDGET...

WAIT... DO WE SELL SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

REALLY? IT WON'T DO ANY DAMAGE?!

HUH? THAT'S WEIRD...

...?! HEY, WAIT ...

TAKE IT TO THE REGISTER IN THE NEXT TEN MINUTES AND GET TWENTY PERCENT OFF!

OHHH, AND GUESS WHAT?!

BUT I SHOULD CONSULT WITH MY ROOMMATE FIRST...

HE GOT THE CALL, BUT HE DIDN'T PICK UP...

UM! SIR!

OH, WOW! THAT'S INCREDI-BLE!!

WE'RE HAVING A *VERY LIMITED-TIME* OFFER!!

NO! I DON'T WANT ANY HELP!

MURMUR

MURMUR

HUH ...?

WHAT'S GOING ON?

HERE, PLEASE USE THIS!

I DON'T WANT TO BURDEN MY FRIEND...

THIS IS A BURDEN I MUST BEAR ON MY OWN!!

HUMF...

AH, YES...

...IS ONLY A SMALLER ITEM FOR UTILIZING DEAD SPACE, BUT...

I *DID* CARRY SUCH A THING.

Y-YOU LET HIM DO THAT BEFORE?!

NO, HE'S JUST FINE. HE'S CARRIED SOMETHING MUCH HEAVIER BEFORE.

WHAT HE'S CARRYING NOW...

ARE YOU WITH HIM?!

WHAT IS THIS, JESUS?! ASCETIC TRAINING?!

I THINK HE BELIEVES THERE'S A COST TO USING A PUSH CART!

...BECAUSE IT WAS ENTIRELY SELF-SERVICE THERE.

At least give me a cart...

I HAD TO CARRY MY "DEAD" SPACE...

JESUS...

...THIS WEIGHT AND DISTANCE IS NOTHING...

COMPARED TO THAT...

How do you "carry" empty space?

YOU CARRIED... DEAD SPACE?

IKEA WAS ABOUT TO BECOME THE SECOND GOLGOTHA.

CLANK

JUST PUT THE BOX ON THIS CART!!

QUICK! BEFORE YOUR DAD SPLITS THIS IKEA IN TWO WITH A LIGHTNING BOLT!

W-WHAT? HE'S A FAKE EMPLOYEE?!

IT'S ALL NONSENSE!! YOU DON'T EVEN WORK HERE, DO YOU?!

...AND THERE ARE NO WALL-SAFE NAILS! THOSE DON'T EXIST!

THERE'S NO TIME-SENSITIVE SALE, NO CART FEES...

THAT'S RIGHT. I *AM* IMPOR-TANT.

Loki
(AESIR)
IKEA

HE'S SCANDI ...

THAT'S TRUE...

...SO I ASSUMED HE WAS AN IMPORTANT PERSON FROM HEAD-QUARTERS ...

HE'S GOT NORDIC FEATURES ...

...AND THOUGHT THAT I WAS ACTUALLY SOME LOWLY EMPLOYEE.

GRR

WHICH IS WHY I COULDN'T BELIEVE YOU DIDN'T RECOGNIZE THE FACE OF LOKI...

YOU'RE TOTALLY A MAJOR GOD!

UH, I AM?

WELL, I SUPPOSE BIG-SHOT ALL-POWERFUL GODS LIKE YOU TWO WOULDN'T RECOGNIZE A LITTLE NAME LIKE MINE...

WHAT? NO, WE KNOW YOU!

HE'S GOT A REAL BAD ATTITUDE!

LOKI, THE TRICK-STER GOD...

I'M PRETTY SURE THAT'S...

YOU'RE A GOD?! A NORSE GOD?!

HUH ..?

WOW. SO YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW ME.

I SEE YOU IN VIDEO GAMES AND STUFF!

J-JESUS, DON'T...

OH NO... I SNUCK A LOOK AT HIM ON A WIKI, AND...

OH, AND *THE AVENGERS!* YOU'RE THE BAD GUY WITH THE SICKLY, PALE FACE, RIGHT?!

LIKE *VALKYRIE PROFILE* ...

HA HA! AND I'M USUALLY A VILLAIN, RIGHT?

NO WORRIES! I JUST LOVE RPGS WITH A NORSE THEME...

HUH?

OH, LOKI-SAN! YOU RASCAL!

SWISH

HE'LL BE TEN TIMES WORSE THAN A DEMON IF WE...

ALL THE NICKNAMES ARE BAD!

THE TRICKSTER. GOD OF CUNNING. TERROR OF MAN.

WHY AM I NOT SURPRISED, JESUS-SAMA? YOU'RE SO KNOWLEDGEABLE.

AND YET YOU FORGIVE ME FOR MY INSOLENCE ...

...SO THIS IS VERY LIGHT TO ME.

I INSIST. I CAME FROM GIANT BLOOD ...

WHAT?! N-NO!

ユサユサ

AS AN APOLOGY ...

I'LL ADMIT, I WENT TOO FAR...

...WOULD YOU ALLOW ME TO CARRY YOUR ITEM?

WOW, THANK YOU SO MUCH!

LET'S GO TAKE THIS TO THE REGISTER NOW.

HUH...? HE SEEMS... NOT THAT BAD?

WOULD YOU MIND IF MY KIDS CARRY IT INSTEAD?

I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT THIS.

BUT THEN...

HUH ...?

WELL, LOKI-SAN, WE'RE JUST DOWN THE STREET HERE...

IT REALLY IS CHEAP ONCE YOU TAKE OUT THE DELIVERY AND ASSEMBLY!

You scared me!

OH... THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR!

Whew...

THEY SHOULD SHOW UP RIGHT AWAY!

DON'T WORRY, THEY'RE GIANTS, TOO.

I HAVE THREE I CAN CALL UPON...

OHHH! I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO!

THERE'S A GIANT WOLF, A GIANT SNAKE, AND A DAUGHTER WHOSE BODY IS HALF-ROTTING AWAY...

WHICH DO YOU WANT?

THE SNAKE...? NO, YOU DON'T LIKE SNAKES.

OH, BUT HE BREATHES FIRE, SO HE MIGHT SINGE YOUR FURNITURE.

I'D RECOMMEND FENRIR THE WOLF...

THEY'RE ALL VERY STRONG, SO YOU CAN'T GO WRONG!

APPARENTLY, LOKI-SAN USES THE SHOW ROOM AT IKEA AS A KIND OF VACATION HOME.

W-WAIT, NO! WE'RE FINE! WE'LL HANDLE IT!!

IN THAT CASE, I'LL SEND YOU MY DECOMPOSING DAUGHTER, HEL.

She even put it together...
Uh, yes, please!
THUNK
Should I leave some space behind it?
THUNK

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

CHAPTER 86 TRANSLATION NOTES

Ikea,
In this panel, Buddha is imagining that the name Ikea was actually derived from *Ike-ya,* meaning "pond store" in Japanese.

Baldr,
A son of Odin and brother to Thor. Baldr is known mostly for his tragic death, caused by Loki. Baldr was impervious to all weapons but mistletoe; when Loki learned this secret, he fashioned a weapon out of mistletoe that he gave to the blind god Hod, who accidentally killed Baldr with it.

Golgotha,
The site at which Jesus was crucified. According to the Gospels, it was located just outside of Jerusalem's walls, although the exact location is unclear and disputed.

Valkyrie Pro ile,
A series of Norse-mythology-themed RPGs, starting with 1999's *Valkyrie Profile*. The player controls a valkyrie named Lenneth who recruits various mortal warriors after death to be einherjar, those heroes who spend the afterlife in Valhalla. Loki is the final villain of the game.

Loki's children,
According to the sagas used as source material, Loki has three children: Fenrir the giant wolf; Jormungand the World Serpent; and Hel, the ruler of the land of Hel (or Helheim), a realm where some gods go after death, especially after old age or sickness. Hel is described as being partially blue of skin. After his death, Baldr spends his time trapped under Hel's watch.

IT REMINDS US OF SHADE IN THE SUMMER...

...AND BEING PROTECTED FROM THE WIND AND RAIN...

THE COLOR GREEN HAS A CALMING EFFECT ON THE HUMAN PSYCHE.

I FEEL AT PEACE...

...A LITTLE GREEN INSIDE IS SO NICE...

I HAVE TO SAY...

EEP!! LOOKING AT IT LIKE THAT?!

WHAT DO YOU THINK? DOES IT CALM YOU, TOO?

SO NEAT...

HE'S BEEN SEVERELY AFFECTED BY THE IKEA SHOW ROOM.

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: BANYAN

HUH? WHERE, WHERE?!

THERE IS GREEN WITHIN MY SIGHT ON A DAILY BASIS, BUT...

...EACH TIME THAT I SEE IT...

バニヤン

NOT EVERY PERSON IS MADE CALM BY THE COLOR GREEN...

JESUS ...

THIS CAME FROM THE 100-YEN STORE!!

BUT AT LEAST HE WAS RATIONAL ENOUGH NOT TO BUY A HUGE ROOM LAMP...

I-I'M SORRY FOR REGULARLY SHOWING YOU THE WORLD'S SADDEST PLANT!!

Here's your crown!

Made of thorns, like you deserve!!

...I'M REMINDED THAT MY FRIEND WAS TORTURED FOR BEING THE SO-CALLED "KING OF THE JEWS"...

OR MAYBE IT'S JUST IN FASHION.

I never actually see it myself!

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 87

Showdown!! Can Trees Bloom In Tachikawa?

BUDDHA
HE'S FROM INDIA, BUT THE COOLER PART CLOSE TO THE HIMALAYAS. HIS ASCETIC TRAINING HASN'T KICKED IN THIS YEAR, PERHAPS BECAUSE IT'S SO HOT THAT IT MELTED HIS SENSORS.

SOMETIMES IT BLOOMS FLOWERS, WHICH IS NICE...

OH... REALLY?

IT'S USEFUL FOR KEEPING MY HAIR TIDY, TOO!

ACTUALLY, THE THORNS ARE REMOVED ON THE INSIDE. THE LENGTH IS ADJUST-IBLE.

SO I WANTED SOMETHING DIFFERENT, THAT I WOULD HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF FOR MYSELF...

I HAVE NO PART IN IT BLOOMING.

THAT'S A MIRACLE, YOU KNOW.

JESUS'S SHIRT: FIG

THE GREENERY IS TEARING HIS HEART TO SHREDS!!

N-NO, BUDDHA ...

SNIFF... I DIDN'T RAISE RAHULA. I HAVE NO RIGHT TO RAISE INDOOR PLANTS...

GAUTAMA RAHULA-SAN

I DON'T HAVE ANY KIDS, OF COURSE. I'VE NEVER KNOWN WHAT IT'S LIKE TO RAISE SOMETHING...

WAIT, NO!! I'M NOT BLAMING YOU FOR HAVING A CHILD AND NOT BEING INVOLVED IN RAISING HIM!!

Buddha-sama.

Buddha-sama.

YOU KNOW HOW WE CAN'T HAVE PETS, BECAUSE THEY'LL GIVE SO ENDLESSLY THAT WE GET EXHAUSTED?

WELL, WHAT IF IT'S A PLANT, INSTEAD? THEN YOU CAN TAKE CARE OF IT!

FSOOSH

AT LEAST YOU KNOW A PLANT ISN'T GOING TO TRY TO SERVE... YOU...

ARE YOU SAYING THAT PLANTS DO IT, TOO...?

HUH...? WAIT A MINUTE...

SHIK

IT'S FINE. I CAN CLOSE THE CURTAINS ON MY OWN.

ARE YOU BLOCKING THE GLARE OF THE WESTERN SUN FOR ME?

I'M SORRY! I DIDN'T THINK THAT PLANTS WERE UNDER YOUR SWAY, TOO!

Nature is already beautiful as it is!!

THEY ALL SINK TO BEING CONVENIENT PLANTS FOR ME. AND I'M NOT EVEN ASKING FOR IT!

FWEP

FWEP

Your holy feet mustn't be soiled!!

THEY HAVE SERVED ME AS WELL, FROM THE MOMENT AFTER I WAS BORN AND LOTUSES GREW BENEATH MY FEET...

IF I FOUND AN INTEREST IN GROWING A CURTAIN OF PLANTS...

I ALWAYS THOUGHT IT WAS STRANGE THAT YOU NEVER SHOWED AN INTEREST IN A GREEN FACADE...

BUT LOTUSES GROW ON WATER! ISN'T THAT A MAJOR STRETCH FOR THEM?!

AND THAT JUST MEANS HIGHER POWER BILLS FOR THE LIGHTS.

...THEN IT WOULD BE ALL TOO EASY TO ENVISION THE GOYA PLANTS CASTING ETERNAL NIGHT OVER TACHIKAWA...

THE PLANTS LOVE YOU, TOO, DON'T THEY?

The sun's that way.

Look at it stretch...

SO PLANTS DO NOTHING TO CALM YOUR HEART, THEN...

BUT YOU SAID YOU LET IT WITHER...

THIS IS WHY I'M BUYING A DECORATIVE PLANT INSTEAD...

WHAT I MEAN IS...

YOU HAVE TO AT LEAST WATER THEM...

HUH?! WHY DID YOU BUY IT, THEN?!

HUH? OH, NO, I THINK YOU HAVE IT BACK-WARDS.

REALLY? THAT'S KIND OF INCON-SIDERATE...

IN FACT, I MAKE THEM WITHER RIGHT AWAY...

NO, THEY DON'T TAKE TO ME.

EXACTLY! LACK OF CONSIDER-ATION IS THE PROBLEM!

...AND THERE'S A FIG TREE THAT'S BEING A REAL JERK AND NOT PRODUCING ANY FRUIT...

Don't be so inconsiderate!!

Come on, produce Fruit!!

WHEN I'M REALLY HUNGRY...

...I CURSE IT AND CAUSE IT TO WITHER AWAY!

YOU'RE LUCKY. AT LEAST THE PLANTS ARE HELPFUL TO YOU!

SIGH

IT'S LIKE, WHEN I'M GOING ON A RETREAT, THE LEAST YOU COULD DO IS MAKE SOME FRUIT...

IT SEEMED TO BUDDHA THAT JESUS WAS TREATING PLANTS LIKE A SURLY TEENAGER TREATS HIS MOTHER.

Buy me some chips already"

Hey, stupid mom!

Oh, Fine.

I'm tired from all my test cramming"

I DO?

?

YOU... YOU REALLY LOOK TO PLANTS TO FILL THE HOLE IN YOUR HEART, DON'T YOU?

JESUS "SUMMER HEAT, BEGONE!" I WANT TO SAY, BUT I CAN'T, BECAUSE IF DAD HEARS IT, HE'LL START A NEW ICE AGE. AT LEAST BUDDHA WON'T MIND IF I BUY EXTRA ICE CREAM.

Y-YEAH, OF COURSE! I'M USED TO HANDLING ALL OF THAT!

"SIN"!!

I'm not doing it!!

BUT TO ATONE FOR THE SIN WITH THE POOR FIG TREE, YOU HAVE TO KEEP IT ALIVE!

WELL, SINCE YOU ALREADY BOUGHT IT, IT'S HERE TO STAY...

OH, NO... IT'S PRACTICALLY TERRIFIED OF JESUS...

HERE, IT'S TIME FOR YOUR WATER!

I'M YOUR OWNER, UNDER-STAND?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR REVERING ME...

SWISH

I'll go get a spray bottle!

I NEED TO DO MORE THAN MAKE IT NOT LIKE ME...

*I'M GOING TO MAKE SURE IT **HATES** ME!*

YES... IT'S TRUE...

THE HOLY MAN WHO MEANS NO HARM, OBSERVING AHIMSA, THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-VIOLENCE...

I AM A DEVOUT MONK WHO EATS THE HELL OUT OF LITTLE PLANTS LIKE YOU...

I AM NOT SOME FRIENDLY MEAT-EATER...

WHAM

AND YOU ARE AROUSING A HUNGER IN ME.

...AND WILL TURN ITS ATTENTION TO JESUS INSTEAD...

NOW IT'LL LOSE ITS INTEREST IN ME...

WHY...?

THERE, THAT SHOULD DO IT...

SO WATCH YOURSELF IN MY PRESENCE.

...a man, you know?

I'm still...

Amacha Comics "...h Boyfriend"

You even pinned it against the wall...

IT SOUNDED TO ME LIKE YOU WERE JUST SAYING THE PHRASES THEY ADVERTISE ON ALL THOSE GAMES FOR LONELY WOMEN...

YOU COULD HAVE TOLD ME IF THAT WAS THE VIBE YOU WERE GETTING, JESUS!!

I TRIED SO HARD TO SCARE IT AWAY ...

OR IS IT APPRE-HENDING ME SO I CAN'T MOVE?

S-SCARE IT? IS THAT WHAT YOU WERE DOING YESTERDAY?

YOU'RE RIGHT! IT'S MONOLOGUING JUST LIKE THOSE BANNER ADS!!

¥30 PER CHAPTER!

CLICK!

I COULD SEE MYSELF GIVING IN TO HIM...

IF HE WAS REALLY THAT BAD, WOULD HE BOTHER TO WARN ME...?

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WHAT WAS THAT, BUDDHA ?!

HAH!

RRIP

I'VE GOT TO UNLEASH MY INNER DEMON...

YOU'VE GOT TO CURSE IT IF YOU WANT IT TO HATE YOU.

I HAD NO IDEA THESE INDOOR PLANTS WERE SO... ***TEENAGED!!***

Shall I free you?

I won't curse it, though.

I SUPPOSE MY METHOD OF PUSHING IT AWAY WAS TOO GENTLE ...

THAT SHOULD DO IT, FINALLY ...

BUT... THIS IS HOW I FEEL...

Y-YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO TEAR IT APART!!

THE NEXT MORNING ...

IT WILL NEVER WORSHIP ME AGAIN..

W-WHAT SHOULD WE DO NOW, BUDDHA?

Poor things. We should keep them close...

...BUT ALL THE SEVERED LEAVES HAVE TAKEN ROOT...

I DIDN'T EVEN PUT THEM IN WATER ...

W-WOW ...

IT'S A BIG, HAPPY FAMILY.

CALL THEM ALL RAHULA!

GAUTAMA RAHULA-SAN

GIVE THEM ALL NAMES, MAYBE?

BUT I WAS THINKING...

SORRY, I JUST DON'T FEEL LIKE I'M UP TO THE TASK.

YOU HAVE TO TRY TO MAKE IT LIKE YOU MORE, TOO!

WELL, DON'T LET ME DO ALL THE WORK!

JESUS'S SHIRT: GRAPES

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: SAL TREE

AFTER ALL, YOU LOVE HIM MORE...

...THAN ANY OTHER PLANT IN THE WORLD, DON'T YOU?

...WHY DON'T YOU LISTEN TO BUDDHA'S REQUEST?

IF YOU'RE THIS DEVOTED TO HIM...

ZWOOOSH

THIS SCENT...

THESE ARE DIFFERENT PLANTS! IN FACT...

KSHUF

HEY! WHY DID YOU MULTIPLY SO MU...

!!

KRSH

IT SMELLS LIKE A NEW BUILDING!!

THESE SMELL LIKE RUSH STRAW, THE MATERIAL FOR TATAMI MATS...

HUH?!

NWIK NWIK NWIK NWIK NWIK

B-BUDDHA, ARE YOU ALL...

...THE FIRST PLANT LOVED ME MORE THAN ANY OTHER PLANT...

Y-YOU SAID ...

I'm afraid to undo it!!

ARE YOU OKAY?! THEY DIDN'T GOUGE YOU, DID THEY?!

IN FACT, THE THORNS DID THAT ON THEIR OWN!!

WHAT ...?!

YOU MEAN...

...AND NOW THE ONES THAT WERE BETTER BEHAVED ARE TRYING TO COMPETE!

SSSS

I HAVEN'T EVEN GONE THROUGH THE SIX REALMS YET...

WAIT... WE CAN'T DO THIS...

HUH?!

LET'S ENTER NIRVANA TOGETHER!

BUDDHA!

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF ONE DAY, A VERY AGGRESSIVE PACHIRA PLANT APPEARED IN YOUR HOME?

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THIS IS ALL THAT PACHIRA'S FAULT!!

RESERVED RUSH STRAW, THE CHILDHOOD FRIEND...

...AS THERE ARE RAHOTSU SWIRLS ON HIS HEAD!

I KNOW AS MANY THINGS ABOUT BUDDHA-KUN...

I'M THE ONE WHO'S BEEN NEARBY ALL THIS TIME...

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EVEN THOUGH HIS BEST FRIEND IS RIGHT NEARBY!

DO YOU SUPPOSE... I COULD MAKE TROUBLE FOR HIM, TOO?

BUDDHA-KUN IS SO KIND AND GENTLE.

WHEN HE WENT TO ASK HIS FRIEND FOR HELP, THE CROWN OF THORNS OVERHEARD IT...

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OKAY, JESUS, I GET IT! YOU'VE SEEN A WHOLE LOT OF THOSE AD BANNERS ON YOUR PHONE!!

...LIKE THAT?!

HMMM... YES, I SEE...

Must get atten-tion ...

TO BE LOVED, ONE MUST FIRST GIVE LOVE...

ONLY BECAUSE YOU'RE EGGING THEM ON!

YOU NEED TO GET SOME POSITIVE ATTENTION TO BALANCE THINGS OUT MORE!!

LOOK, I'M JUST SAYING, YOU'RE AS POPULAR AS THE GUY IN THE MIDDLE OF ALL OF THOSE TEEN ROMANCE COMICS ...

THEY THINK YOU'RE GOING TO BURN THE FIELD!!

LISTEN UP, EVERYONE. I'M GOING TO ANOINT YOU WITH PLENTY OF OIL...

VEGETABLE OIL

ZWOOSH

IF ONLY THERE WERE SOMEONE ELSE THEY'LL LISTEN TO...

THAT'S IT! THERE'S THAT TEMPLE NEARBY ...

LET GO OF HIM, I SAY TO THEE!!

HE'S GOING TO PASS ON TO HEAVEN SOON!!

SHAKE

SHAKE

UGH, THIS ISN'T WORKING. COMING FROM ME, IT'S ONLY FRIGHTENING THEM AND MAKING THEM CLING HARDER...

Y-YIKES, THEY'VE FLATTENED AWAY FROM ME LIKE SOME KIND OF CROP CIRCLE...

AAAH! HEY! THEY'RE WRAPPING BUDDHA UP EVEN WORSE!!

...THE BODHI TREE!!!

WITH THE TREE THAT SUPPORTED BUDDHA'S ENLIGHTENMENT...

NOTHING COULD POSSIBLY STAND UP TO THIS--

...WHICH RECEIVED ITS NAME FROM YOURS...

W-WELL, HOW ABOUT NOW? YOU FOUND ENLIGHTEN-MENT UNDER THIS TREE...

OH! BUDDHA! I'M SO GLAD!!

PWAAA !!!

しょん WILT WILT しょん...

WHAT? WHY? IF THE BODHI TREE IS HERE, WE'RE SAFE.

HI SWISH SWISH HI

THIS TEMPLE ALSO HAS...

IT LOOKS LIKE MY GUESS WAS RIGHT. NO PLANT CAN COMPETE WITH THE BODHI TREE...

J-JESUS... YOU MUST RUN AWAY FROM HERE AT ONCE!!

IT WAS UNDER MY BRANCHES THAT HE RETURNED IN THE END...

AND THE TREE UNDER WHOSE SHADE BUDDHA REACHED NIRVANA.

SAL TREE

I'VE SUPPORTED HIM THE LONGEST!

...THE TREE IN WHOSE SHADE BUDDHA TAUGHT AFTER HIS ENLIGHTEN-MENT.

BANYAN

AFTER THIS, EVEN JESUS COULDN'T ENJOY THE SIGHT OF GREEN PLANTS FOR A WHILE.

I CAN'T HANDLE THREE AT ONCE!!

CAN YOU JUST CURSE ME TO SHRIVEL UP, TOO...?

WHAT SHOULD WE DO, BUDDHA?

OH NO! ALL THE HOLY TREES OF BUDDHISM!

JESUS...

I guess his thumb must have hit the banner ad again...
Oh, Jesus...
SWI
I I OO
...!
AAAAAHH!!
OO
I I OO I
SWISH

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

CHAPTER 87 TRANSLATION NOTES

Banyan,
A relative of the bodhi tree, which is the tree under which the Buddha was said to have reached enlightenment. The banyan tree, by contrast, has some of the widest canopy coverage on earth, because it grows down roots that, when they find soil, grow into full-sized trunks of their own. Thus, the banyan is often compared to the cycle of Samsara: without beginning or end.

Fig tree,
There are a number of stories in the Gospels about fig trees. In one parable, Jesus compares the budding of a fig tree, signaling the coming of the season, to the coming of the kingdom of God. In another parable, a man with a barren fig tree wants to cut it down, but his gardener pleads with him to wait one more year, in case it will bear fruit.

Goya,
A type of vegetable found in Asia and Africa, commonly called "bitter melon." In Okinawa, where it is a regular part of cuisine, it is called goya. The vines can grow up to 16 feet in length.

Pinning against the wall,
A romantic scenario that became a recent trend in Japan called *kabe-don*, meaning "wall-thump." It refers to one person approaching a submissive romantic target who is standing against or near a wall, and aggressively pushing their arm against the wall (the "*don*") over the target's shoulder, to trap them there.

Sal tree,
A type of tree found in India. It is known as the tree that the Buddha died beneath, and is one of the Three Holy Trees of Buddhism, along with the ashoka tree (where the Buddha was born) and bodhi or banyan tree (where the Buddha reached enlightenment).

Kurama,
One of the principal characters from the classic '90s series *Yu Yu Hakusho* by Yoshihiro Togashi. Kurama is a fox demon who carries a rose that turns into a whip of thorns.

ABOVE THOSE THICK, DEEP PRINTS...

...PEOPLE CARVED FOOTPRINTS INTO STONE AND WORSHIPPED THEM.

IN THE TIME BEFORE BUDDHA STATUES...

I'VE GOT A BIG HOLE.

WELL, IT'S FINALLY HAPPENED ...

...WHAT MANNER OF BUDDHA DID THEY ENVISION?

HEY, WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME WITH ME TO BUY NEW SHOES?

I'VE BEEN WEARING THEM NONSTOP SINCE COMING DOWN TO THE MORTAL WORLD, AND THEY'RE FINALLY WEARING OUT.

HAVEN'T YOU HAD THAT FOR TWO THOUSAND YEARS?

N-NO, I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT MY ACTUAL FEET.

I'M TALKING ABOUT THE SOLE OF MY SHOE!

NOW, I KNOW YOU KEEP YOUR ITEMS IN GOOD CONDITION ...

...BUT FESS UP. LET ME SEE YOUR SOLES...

I bet they're falling apart...

AH! H-HANG ON..

ACTUALLY, MINE ARE STILL FINE...

I CAN KEEP WALKING IN THEM FOR A WHILE.

WAIT A SECOND! THESE DON'T EVEN COUNT AS SHOES ANYMORE!!!

THE BUDDHIST VERSION OF THE DE-CLUTTER-ING CRAZE EXTENDS TO SHOE SOLES.

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 88

Work Those 0-Inch Heels

BUDDHA AUTUMN IS THE SEASON OF NEW RICE! WITH MATSUDA-SAN'S HOMEMADE UMEBOSHI AND NUKAZUKE, OUR MEALS ARE AMAZING NOW.

...SO THIS IS ACTUALLY MORE COMFORTABLE FOR ME...

I'M FROM A GENERATION THAT DIDN'T WEAR SHOES...

IF YOU WANT "AIR" THAT BAD, WHY WEAR SHOES AT ALL?!

THIS IS MY PERFECTED VERSION OF THE AIR MAX...

YOU CAN COOK AN EGG ON THAT STUFF!

BUT IN MY DAY, WE DIDN'T HAVE THE ALMIGHTY TERROR OF MIDSUMMER ASPHALT!

YES, I SUPPOSE THAT'S TRUE...

...THEN ALL OF MY DISCIPLES WILL HAVE TO GO BARE-FOOT.

WELL, IF I GO BARE-FOOT ...

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: BUDDHA'S FOOTPRINTS

IT'S CALLED A "THOUSAND-SPOKED WHEEL."

A TATTOO OF A WHEEL ...?

IT SIMPLY APPEARED OVER THE COURSE OF MY TIME TEACHING...

HA HA HA! HARDLY!

A NEW FORM OF ASCETIC TRAINING, PERHAPS?!

HAVE YOUR SHOES BEEN LIKE THAT SINCE SUMMER?

JUST LOOK AT THE SOLES OF MY FEET.

I WAS BORN IN A GENERATION THAT DIDN'T WEAR SHOES VERY MUCH, EITHER...

YOU'VE BEEN HOVERING RIGHT NEXT TO ME ALL THIS TIME?!

VAVAVAVUM

ON TREACHEROUS PATHS, THEY ROTATE SO RAPIDLY THAT I FLOAT A BIT OFF THE GROUND...

THAT'S A LITTLE TOO "AIR MAX," IF YOU ASK ME!!

SWOO

THUP

Buddha, you goof!

...MEANING I'D SLIDE AWAY LIKE AN AIR HOCKEY PUCK...

THE DRAWBACK IS THE LACK OF FRICTION IF I GET PUSHED...

You look great, sir.

...HE REALLY LIKED THE COMBAT ARMOR OF THE MORTAL REALM...

...AND BOUGHT A SUIT OF IT BEFORE HE WENT TO FIGHT A PARTICULARLY TOUGH DEMON...

I'VE HEARD THAT SHOE SHOPPING IS PRETTY HARD...

WE SHOULD SPLURGE A LITTLE, TO MAKE SURE YOU GET NICE AND STURDY SHOES THAT WILL LAST.

LET'S BUY YOU NEW ONES!

JESUS'S SHIRT: STIGMATA

EARLIER, TAISHAKUTEN-SAN SAID...

OH? REALLY?

THE PRICE OF THE SHOE DOESN'T NECESSARILY CORRESPOND TO HOW COMFORTABLE IT FEELS.

HRG

HRG

WHAT'S WRONG ?!

HMP

HRG

C'MON! LET'S GO...

COME ON!!

DO YOUR WORST, TAISHAKU-TEN!

I WILL MAKE YOU RUE CHALLENGING ME BY YOURSELF!!

I'M JUST GOING BACK HOME FOR TODAY ...

I'M GETTING TERRIBLE SHOE SORES.

THAT DEMON WAS A REAL GENTLEMAN TO ESCORT HIM HOME LIKE THAT...

NOD

Shall I call a taxi?

Can you walk home?

Oh, okay.

APPARENTLY BRAND NEW, EXPENSIVE LEATHER SHOES AREN'T MEANT FOR BATTLE AFTER ALL...

OF COURSE THEY HURT.

DEVAS

ONCE, I ASKED HER IF THEY WERE PAINFUL...

THAT'S TRUE. BENZAITEN-SAN WEARS SOME VERY TALL HEELS...

SPEAKING OF PAINFUL SHOES... HI-HEELS FOR WOMEN SEEM LIKE TORTURE INSTRUMENTS.

I'M NOT STEPPING ON THEM *TOO* HARD.

BUT DON'T WORRY.

LATELY, AFTER SHE GOES OUT SHOPPING...

IT'S LIKE, YOU CAN ONLY TORTURE SOMEONE SO BAD.

APPARENTLY, HER FAVORITE TORTURE IMPLEMENTS ARE LOUBOUTINS.

SO THEY'RE JUST THE LATEST WEAPON FOR HER...

...THE IMPS WILL PASS OUT JUST FROM SEEING HER CARRYING THE BAGS FROM THE DEPARTMENT STORE.

JESUS WHAT I LOVE ABOUT THE AUTUMN IS THE FULL MOON FESTIVAL! LATELY, I'VE STARTED TO SEE THE RABBIT IN THE PATTERN ON THE MOON.

OH! I KNOW!

YOU'RE GIVING UP TOO QUICKLY!

I'M JUST NOT MOTIVATED TO CHOOSE NEW ONES.

CLEARLY, BOTH OF US VIEW SHOES AS THINGS THAT CAUSE PAIN.

DO I HAVE TO...?

LET'S GET THEM TO COME ALONG!

I KNOW SOMEONE WHO'S VERY PICKY ABOUT THEIR SHOES!

APC-MART

I GOT A MESSAGE FROM JESUS-SAMA ABOUT YOU.

I THOUGHT AN EMPLOYEE FROM A DEPARTMENT STORE HAD WANDERED IN!

SAN-DAL-PHON-SAN !!

I'M NO STRANGER TO DIFFICULTY IN FINDING THE RIGHT SHOE, BELIEVE ME.

ACTUALLY, I THINK I'D RATHER GO BARE-FOO...

HUH?

TH-THERE ARE SO MANY!

I DON'T KNOW WHICH TO CHOOSE.

JUST TELL ME WHICH ONES YOU LIKE, AND I WILL BRING OUT THE RIGHT SIZE FOR YOU.

...UNTIL I CAME ACROSS THE WONDERFUL INVENTION OF INSOLES, THAT IS!

...SO I PREFERRED TO GO IN SANDALS FOR THE MOST PART...

IN MY CASE, SHOES DON'T SUIT MY FEET BECAUSE OF INGROWN TOENAILS ...

WAIT, SO YOU'RE SAYING YOUR NAME DOES COME FROM "SANDAL"?!

...TO INSOLEPHON.

I'M KNOWN FOR SUCH DEVOTION TO THE INSOLE NOW THAT I'M THINKING OF CHANGING MY NAME...

ARE YOU MAKING AFTERIMAGES, BUDDHA?!

I CAN'T IMAGINE THAT PUTTING THIS THIN LAYER UNDER MY FEET WILL CHANGE ANYTHING...

SWISH

SWISH

SWISH

ZWOOOM

HERE, TRY THESE ON.

SHOES DO NOT NEED TO BE EXPENSIVE.

TAP

TAP

I JUST DON'T KNOW IF I FEEL COMFORTABLE IN SHOES...

LOOK, HE HAS NO ARCHES.

FLAT FEET ...?

OH, I SEE!

I'M GLAD...

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR FLAT FEET, BUDDHA-SAMA.

W-WHAT IS THIS...?! IT FEELS SO COMFORT-ABLE!!

BUDDHA, I KNOW THAT NATURE LOVES YOU, BUT THIS CONFIDENCE IS UNBECOMING!

Oh no!

I MEAN, I'D FEEL BAD FOR THE PART OF THE SOIL THAT I DIDN'T STEP UPON, WOULDN'T YOU?

Yeah, right!

I MEAN, THE DEVAS GAVE ME THESE SPECIAL FEET...

OH, THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT!

BUT SOME PEOPLE TAKE MEASURES TO FIX THAT NOWADAYS.

ONE OF MY FAMOUS PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS IS THE LEVELNESS OF MY FEET UPON THE GROUND. I SHOULD BE PROUD OF IT...

YOU'VE REACHED THE DEVA DEPART-MENT.

I WANTED TO ASK ABOUT MY FEET.

SWISH

IT MAKES WALKING MORE DIFFICULT, AND TIRING AND FALLING EASIER.

YES, THAT'S RIGHT!! I'M ACTUALLY KIND OF AMAZED YOU WALKED AROUND AND LECTURED ON THEM!!

AHHH, SO YOU FINALLY NOTICED THAT HIDDEN ASCETIC CHALLENGE!!

SO IT WAS... A SURPRISE PENANCE?!

Wow!

Those aren't exciting!

AS THOUGH THEY WERE HIDDEN NICKEYS, WAITING FOR ME TO SPOT THEM!!

HE SAID, "HOW MANY MORE OF YOUR HIDDEN ASCETIC TRAINING CHALLENGES WILL YOU FIND?"

WHOA...

THAT GUY'S SHOES ARE TOTALLY TRASHED.

So many colors and designs!

I CAN FIND SHOES ON MY OWN...

AS FOR ME, I DON'T HAVE MAJOR FEET TROUBLE.

THANK YOU FOR BEING OPEN, BUDDHA ...

BUT MY TOES ARE LONG, SO LET'S TRY ONE SIZE BIGGER.

FINE, I'M OVER IT NOW!

HUH?

YOU KNOW, I THINK YOU'D LOOK REALLY GOOD IN THESE.

LET ME RECOM-MEND ONE OF THESE MODELS WE NEED TO CLEAR OUT OF INVEN-TORY.

HE DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE A CLOTHING STYLE, EITHER.

I'M GLAD. HE SHOULD GET SOME GOOD SHOES NOW...

AND THEY'RE ALL SO STYLISH!

YOU HAVE SO MANY ACCESS-ORIES!

HE, ON THE OTHER HAND ...

OH, THANKS.

スティ

HMM. IT'S NOT POPPING OUT AT ME.

BUT I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT FASHION, EITHER...

THEY'RE REALLY POPULAR! WE ONLY JUST GOT A FRESH SHIPMENT IN TODAY!!

TH... THOSE?

OH... I SEE...

I EVEN PIERCED THE CARTILEGE OF MY EAR UP HERE.

I GUESS SO. I'VE PUT MY ENTIRE LIFE INTO FASHION ...

HERE, LET'S TRY THESE ON!

I... I SUPPOSE SO.

YOUR CLOTHES ARE SO SIMPLE, YOU CAN AFFORD TO GO FLASHY WITH YOUR FOOTWEAR.

OHHH! W-WELL...I GUESS I CAN TAKE YOUR ADVICE, THEN!

BUT FASHION IS ABOUT WITH-STANDING PAIN!

IT HURT A LOT ...

FASHION DOES START WITH THE FEET, AS THEY SAY...

I...

THEY'RE IN BOTH FEET. PLEASE DON'T MIND THEM...

OH, I GOT THOSE WHEN I WAS YOUNGER.

THESE... HOLES...

WHEN JESUS BROUGHT UP THE HOLES IN HIS PALMS AND SIDE, HE GOT RANKED UP TO "MASTER."

YEAH, HE WAS REAL PRICKLY.

...HE WOULD ONLY BRING OUT THESE SNEAKERS THAT COST AT LEAST ¥20,000 EACH. I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...

ALL OF A SUDDEN...

I'M SORRY ...

I'LL GO BACK AND PICK A SHOE THAT ACTUALLY SUITS YOU, SENPAI!!!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "SENPAI"?!

"A shoe that actually suits you"

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

CHAPTER 88 TRANSLATION NOTES

Buddha's footprint,
A piece of Buddhist iconography and art. In ancient India, it was common to worship the feet of gurus and gods, with placing one's head at feet level representing the hierarchical difference. Footprints purported to belong to the Buddha (in stone or other materials) were a representation of the Buddha's physical presence upon the earth. They are often decorated with dharma wheels and similar symbols.

Umeboshi,
A salted and pickled Japanese plum. Umeboshi are very sour and salty, which makes them a popular side dish to eat in small amounts with rice or in rice balls. The salt and citric acid make them healthy as well.

Nukazuke,
A pickled vegetable found in Japanese cuisine. The pickling source, *nuka*, is a sand-like mixture based on rice bran that is left in a "nuka bed" for long periods, and the food meant for pickling is buried inside the mixture for the desired length of time. It has a rich, yeasty flavor.

Rabbit on the moon,
In many East Asian cultures, there is a folklore tradition of seeing a rabbit in the markings on the surface of the moon. In Japan, the rabbit is using a mortar and pestle to pound mochi, the glutinous rice cakes eaten around the end of the year.

Saint Young Men 12

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